

Jordan supports Syrian demands

AMMAN (AP) — Jordan yesterday sought to mend fences with Syria, saying it supports its neighbor's demands in peace negotiations with Israel.

In comments published by the Jordanian media, Prime Minister Abdul-Salam Majali also extended a cautious welcome to an Arab mini-summit held in Egypt this week.

The premier's comments came after two days of silence over the surprise summit, held in Alexandria and attended by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Syrian leader Hafez Assad, and Saudi King Fahd.

A final communique issued after the summit supported Syria's position in peace talks with Israel and called for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab land, including Jerusalem.

It also insisted that Iraq meet all demands of the UN Security Council before international sanctions imposed on it following its 1990 invasion of Kuwait are lifted.

Jordan was skeptical of the summit, apparently believing that Syria was seeking to isolate it in retaliation for signing a treaty with Israel without waiting for similar progress in the Syrian-Israeli track in the peace process.

Majali told the radio: "Our relations with Syria are stable and there is no enmity between us. They have their own interpretation over a peaceful settlement. Jordan did not break away from the Arab fold and it remains committed to supporting Syria and we want Syria to achieve its full rights, the way we did, and we encourage that and work for it," Majali added.



Police arrest a left-wing protester on Friday during a clash with security forces near El Khader

Clinton met with Barak, Shihabi

ALON PINKAS

FORMER chief of general staff Lt.-Gen. (res.) Ehud Barak and his Syrian counterpart met with President Bill Clinton during their recent talks in Washington, diplomatic sources here confirmed last night.

During their 40-minute meeting, Clinton emphasized the importance of the peace talks and expressed concern over the lack of progress in Syrian-Israeli negotiations, according to a report in yesterday's *New York Times*.

Clinton reportedly told Barak and Syrian Gen. Hikmat Shihabi the time has come to seriously examine whether an agreement can be reached on security arrangements in the framework of a total Israeli withdrawal from

the Golan Heights "to the borders of June 4, 1967."

The sources said Barak and Shihabi were invited to the White House on December 22, apparently at the initiative of Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who attended part of their meeting.

Meanwhile, a senior defense official yesterday confirmed that Barak will head at least the next round of military talks with Syria. A date has not yet been set for the talks, which are to take place in Washington.

The official added that, if the military talks

become the more effective channel of dialogue, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin would offer Barak to head them on a permanent basis.

According to the *Times*, the Israeli and Syrian negotiators in Washington have not bridged gaps on bilateral security guarantees, but have made progress in other areas, including a timetable for an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and the establishment of diplomatic relations.

The secret, high-level Syrian-Israeli talks have been going on for six months in Washington under American auspices, according to the newspaper.

Shahak officially begins CGS tenure

ALON PINKAS

MAJ.-GEN. Amnon Shahak will this morning officially begin his tenure as the IDF's 15th chief of general staff, and will be promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general.

The rank and official commission will be handed to Shahak by Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv at 10:30. The handing-over ceremony will follow immediately, and Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak will salute his successor for the last time.

Shahak was born in Tel Aviv in 1944 and joined the IDF in 1962. He served in all command roles in the Paratroopers Brigade, from squad commander to brigade commander. During the Six Day War he commanded a paratrooper company and in the Yom Kippur War he was the brigade's deputy commander.

Shahak commanded an armored division during the 1982 Lebanon War, and in October 1983 was promoted to major-general and appointed OC Central Command.

In February 1986 he was appointed OC Intelligence Branch and immediately after the Gulf War in March 1991 he was appointed deputy chief of the general staff.

Shahak is a graduate of the IDF National Defense College



Shahak: Becomes 15th chief of general staff this morning.

and the US Marines Command and Staff College at Quantico, Virginia.

He has twice been decorated for valor, is married for the second time, and the father of five. Barak has yet to reveal his future plans, but has confirmed he may continue to head the military talks with Syria.

Shahak's tough job ahead, Page 3

Budget passes in anticlimax

EVELYN GORDON

THE 1995 budget was passed quickly and easily early Friday morning, in an anticlimax to the tense drama enacted over the accompanying Economic Arrangements Law the previous day.

However, the government must still figure out how to pass the Arrangements Law — without which certain elements of the budget will go awry — in the face of coalition chairman Eli Dayan's rebellion over the long-school amendment. By Knesset regulations, the government must return the bill for a vote no earlier than Thursday and no later than two weeks from Thursday if it wants to return it at all.

The other option is to pass each of the bills comprising the Arrangements Law through the Knesset separately. This, however, would be considerably more

time-consuming, since each bill would have to start from scratch with a first reading in the plenum.

The vote on the budget was 58-41, with Shas and Yitd supporting the coalition. The Arab parties, in a rare move, voted with the opposition to show their displeasure over the government's failure to earmark additional budgets for the Arab sector. However, they did so only after being sure that the budget would pass in spite of their no votes.

United Torah Judaism, which usually votes with the opposition, instead absented itself from the hall — a clear sign that it had received at least some of what it wanted from the new budget.

Despite the thousands of proposed amendments, the vote lasted less than two hours, finishing

shortly after 1 a.m. on Friday. This was largely thanks to an agreement with the Likud and the religious parties to vote on most of the proposed amendments by a show of hands, with few time-consuming electronic or roll call votes.

The deal was made to ensure there would be plenty of time after the budget vote to pass a law banning the import of non-kosher meat before Shabbat. This law, though supported by almost the entire house, was expected to require considerable time to pass thanks to a planned Meretz-Tsomet filibuster.

All of the proposed amendments were in the end handily defeated, despite threats by a few Labor MKs to try to pass their own amendments in defiance of a coalition decision to the contrary.

Price of UK revelry goes up as '95 begins

LONDON (AP) — British revelers trying not to forget Auld Lang Syne may also have been trying not to remember that the price of revelry went up one minute past midnight last night.

Duties on beer, wine, and spirits rise today, as the government seeks to compensate for a humiliating Value Added Tax defeat in December.

The extra glass of beer after midnight cost an extra one penny (1.6 cents); uncorking another bottle of wine means outlaying an

extra five pence (8 cents); and raising a stronger-spirited toast rose 26 pence (41 cents) per bottle.

The duties were part of a government package to compensate for losing a vote to double the VAT, after a small group of rebel Conservative lawmakers bolted and voted with the opposition against the rise.

The defeat added to the woes of Prime Minister John Major, who leads the most unpopular government in recent British history.

There have also been rises in income and cigarette taxes.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the religious head of the Anglican church, sees the New Year as one of optimism, as the peace process in Northern Ireland takes hold.

"Despite so many tragedies, there was a feeling of optimism in the air that there was a chance of a lasting settlement," he said, describing a recent visit to the British-ruled province.

New Year's roundup, Page 4

Ben-Yair to rule on Efrat project

PA: Building will halt talks

JON IMMANUEL

THE cabinet is to receive Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair's legal opinion today on the building of a neighborhood of Efrat near El Khader in Gush Etzion, authorized over 10 years ago by the former Likud government.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, sources say, is seeking a legal way to stop the controversial project, which he reauthorized.

Dozens of Peace Now supporters yesterday blocked traffic at the army roadblock near Gilo, after the High Court rejected their petition against an IDF ban on demonstrating at the disputed site, on grounds the protest would pose a security risk. The court gave the IDF 14 days to explain its position on demonstrations in the territories.

Members of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's cabinet threatened yesterday to cut off peace talks with Israel over the construction. AP reported.

"If the settlers don't stop their activities now in the West Bank, it will bring an immediate halt to the peace process," Culture Minister Yasser Abed-Rabbo told reporters after the six-hour cabinet meeting. "This is the last chance for the peace process."

Despite the ongoing dispute, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators are still scheduled to meet Tuesday in Cairo to continue the negotiations on IDF redeployment and elections.

Chief Palestinian negotiator and Planning Minister Nabil Shaath has left for Cairo and expects Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to announce land clearing will stop by the time the latter arrives for the session of the Joint Liaison Committee, a spokesman in Shaath's ministry said.

Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni told Channel One on Friday she was astonished to discover that, during intense talks with the PLO in August 1993, Rabin assured MK Hanan Porat of the National Religious Party that the building of the new neighborhood would be permitted.

"I think this is robbery," she said.

Some Israelis and Palestinians are likening the disturbances over the future of the bill to the beginning of the intifada, and warn that unless Palestinian dissent is crushed or Israeli bulldozers are stopped immediately the violence will spread.

A demonstration at the site Friday that did not have a permit was attended by some 1,000, including dozens of Jewish sympathizers, and erupted into pushing and stone-throwing.

The protesters, led by a linked line of marchers, including Arafat adviser Dr. Ahmed Tibi and Uri Avneri of Gush Shalom, clashed with soldiers after a prayer meeting on the hill.

The army said six soldiers and policemen were lightly wounded by stones and scuffling, while Pal-

estinian sources said 10 Palestinians were lightly wounded. The violence also erupted in the village of El Khader, a kilometer away, which was placed under curfew until yesterday.

Gush Shalom sources said 26 people, including Avneri and Rabbi Eliahu Milgrom, were arrested; all 22 Israelis and four Palestinians held were released on NIS 5,000 bond by Friday evening.

One Israeli was wounded by a stone thrown from the nearby Dehaisheh refugee camp, the army said.

Efrat residents: We'll turn this hill into 'Sebastia 2,' Page 2

High Court ruling, Page 2

The IDF-Palestinian confrontation, the biggest since the Oslo accords were signed in September 1993, was marked by the restraint by the security forces. Soldiers fired no shots and clearly tried to use non-lethal pressure to keep back the protesters.

"I think we exercised extreme self-restraint," said Cmdr. Alec Ron, head of the Judea and Samaria police district.

Arafat phoned the protesters from Gaza urging them to remain steadfast in your position to defend this land for the sake of the people and for the sake of peace, the sake of peace, the sake of peace.

El Khader Imam Sheikh Mohammed Dawi warned, "This people will rebel, rise up, and take revenge if Israel does not change its present political plans."

In the evening, Arafat attended a torchlight parade to celebrate Fatah Day, the 30th anniversary of the founding of the PLO leadership. More Fatah rallies are to be held today and their intensity is likely to be fueled by the El Khader dispute.

Former justice minister Dan Meridor (Likud) warned in a TV interview on Friday that, "If we surrender to this violence, where will it lead? Seven years ago there was also a beginning of violence." Building in Efrat must continue, he said, because it "is in Gush Etzion, which is supported by a national consensus" as part of greater Jerusalem.

Both Jerusalem Arabic dailies, *Al-Quds* and *An-Nahar*, published on Friday what they said is a secret Israeli plan to annex large land tracts over the Green Line, including Bethlehem.

Meanwhile, a similar dispute in reverse erupted Friday, as settlers protested work by Palestinian bulldozers clearing rocks near Moshav Mehola in the Jordan Valley for a Palestinian-owned gas station authorized by the civil administration.

Moshe Hakrami, the moshav secretary, told ITV that, "Today they are working 70 meters from our fence. Tomorrow they will be working right next to the fence. This will threaten the good relations between us and them."

New era of universal health coverage begins today

JUDY SIEGEL

A UNIVERSAL health insurance system, granting health coverage to all residents, begins today. Following are the main features of the system:

- Every resident (including temporary residents, but not tourists) automatically becomes a member of one of the four public health funds: Clalit, Maccabi, Meuhedet, or Leumi.
- No health fund may reject a member for any reason — age, state of health, place of residence, place or work, or any other

criterion. Each insurer will supply a basic basket of health services set by the Health Ministry and approved by the Knesset.

- Every adult with more than a minimum income will pay a monthly health tax. The NII will start collecting this tax on January 1, 1994, and distribute the money among the four health funds.
- The basket of services, which includes outpatient care and hospitalization, is equal to that provided by the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit health fund on January 1, 1994. Psychiatric care will remain the responsibility of the Health Ministry until June 1995, when it will be included in the health funds' basket of services.

For the time being, geriatric care will remain under the Health Ministry's aegis. The basket includes first aid,

emergency house calls, organ transplants, preventive dental care for children, physiotherapy, in vitro fertilization, and life-saving medical care abroad when it is unavailable here. In some cases, patients must cover part of the costs.

The Health Ministry has asked the Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee to approve a basket of health services totaling NIS 14.217 billion, including health taxes and Treasury expenditures. The committee will continue discussion only tomorrow, but the delay does not affect the launching of the new system.

- There is complete freedom of choice in picking an insurer. Whoever has been in a certain health fund for at least the past few months must remain with that insurer for at least six more months. Residents may switch to

another health fund if they have been a member of the previous one for a year. The switchover dates are in January and July of each year, but one must inform the health funds involved three months in advance.

Starting next month, the health funds will no longer be able to charge membership fees, as the health tax replaces them. Anyone who wants their insurer's supplementary health insurance policy, in addition to the basic basket of services, will continue to pay through a standing order at the bank or by going to a branch of the health fund. Only Maccabi has publicized details of its supplementary health insurance scheme. The Health Ministry will not allow supplementary health insurance schemes to include services that are part of the basic basket of services.

- From the beginning of February, the NII will deduct a health tax from the wages of every salaried worker: 3.1 percent of the first NIS 2,000 of gross salary, and 4.8 percent on the rest of the salary. The wage ceiling for the tax is NIS 15,684; no tax will be paid on the remainder of incomes above that figure. The maximum anyone will pay, and this includes millionaires, is NIS 734 per month per breadwinner (this, too, will be updated for the first payment).
- Self-employed persons will pay the same rate, but will do so through their regular arrangements for paying NII fees.
- Non-working housewives will be exempt from paying. Minors (under the age of 18) are exempt, even if they have their own income. These figures are not final, as

they will be updated according to the new national average wage to be announced this month: the minimum payment for a single is NIS 47 with minimal income (a quarter of the average wage, or about NIS 1,000).

- Pensioners (men 65 and over; women 60 and over who retired) who receive an NII old-age pension will pay NIS 88 for a single and NIS 128 for a couple. Very-low-income residents who receive NII income supplements will each pay NIS 47. Working pensioners will pay the health tax only on their salaries, but not on their pensions.
- The disabled, war widows and others receiving government allotments will pay only NIS 47 each, unless they have other income; those with income will pay according to the regular rates, but not on the allotment.

- The unemployed will each pay NIS 47.
- People on unpaid leave will pay 3.1 percent of a quarter of the national average income during the first two months, and 4.8 percent of income after that. Domestic workers will have their tax — 1% of salary — paid by their employer.
- All residents are covered by health insurance whether they pay or not; but those who do not pay will be in violation of a criminal law.

The NII, which collects health taxes, will distribute the money among the various public health funds on a weighted capitation basis. Every member over the age of 65 will be counted as four times the amount of members under that age, thereby compensating the insurers for increased (Continued on Page 2)



Efrat warns: El Khader will be 'Sebastia 2'

DOZENS of Efrat residents yesterday took a "Shabbat stroll" towards El Khader, about a kilometer-and-a-half from the northernmost point of the settlement, but were stopped by IDF soldiers from proceeding to the hill itself. The group talked with the soldiers and sang.

A number of Efrat residents said the community has not planned any major activity yet in support of building the new neighborhood, because land-clearing work is still taking place on the hill. But if the bulldozers

stop their work, "We will turn this hill into Sebastia 2," said Josh Adler, a resident and activist in the Efrat Action Committee.

Sebastia is the site of an abandoned railway station near Nablus which has become a symbol for settlers of the ability to create facts on the ground. In 1974 a group of 20 people, trying to force settlement in Samaria, declared a settlement at the site.

The group was ordered out by then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, but soon hundreds of others

HERB KEINON

evaded army blockades and reached the site. Eventually the government allowed the settlers to set up a settlement at a nearby army base, which became Kedumim.

Eve Harow, one of the heads of the Efrat Action Committee, said there are contingency plans if the government decides to stop work on the site, but would not say what they are. Today the Union of Rabbis for the People and Land of Israel is holding a meeting in Efrat

over the issue. A planned procession of Efrat residents and supporters from the Gilo Junction to Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem has been cancelled at the request of the army and police.

Meanwhile, Rabbi Yehuda Amital, dean of the Har Ezyon Yeshiva in nearby Alon Shvut and a supporter of the government's peace process, told Israel Radio on Friday the government should continue building the neighborhood.

"The government will be making a big mistake if it surrenders

to threats," Amital said. "The Arabs are interested no less than we are in the continuation of the negotiations. We don't always have to look at the Arab side, sometimes we have to look within, and see what's happening within the nation."

According to Amital, public support for the peace process, already weakened by Arab terror, will be weakened further if the government gives in over the new neighborhood. "There is no peace process without public support," he said.

High Court orders Biran to explain protest ban

THE High Court of Justice on Friday issued a show-cause order to OC Central Command Maj. Gen. Ilan Biran, giving him two weeks to explain his position on the issue of demonstrations in Judea and Samaria.

The order was issued at the request of Peace Now, which petitioned the court after Biran refused to let the group bring some 300 demonstrators to the disputed hill near the village of El Khader, where land clearing has begun for a new neighborhood of the settlement of Efrat.

The group demonstrated instead at the Gilo neighborhood near the southern exit of Jerusalem.

The hearing in two weeks will discuss the issue of demonstrations in the territories in general, not those of one group or another.

Justice Aharon Barak noted that if Peace Now wanted to conduct any other demonstrations in the interim, they would have to petition the court again.

Peace Now representatives told the court that Biran's refusal to allow the group to conduct a

protest vigil at the hill was against the law. Attorney Tzvi Reshef said the OC Central Command is allowed to forbid marches or demonstrations, but not protest vigils.

Government attorney Nili Arad disputed this, saying the commanding officer could disallow any such activity in the territories.

Arad said Biran had said that 10 demonstrators of the 300 could come to the hill, but Peace Now rejected that compromise.

At one point during Friday's hearing, Justices Barak, Eliezer Goldberg, and Eliahu Mazza called a recess, and told the two sides to try to reach some sort of compromise.

Finally, Arad said the army would permit two buses of demonstrators to travel to the Efrat area. But Peace Now wanted to bring four buses, and decided to hold the demonstration in Gilo instead.

They nonetheless asked the court to issue the show-cause order, so the principle of demonstrations in the territories can be discussed. (Itim)

Produce may be labeled with place of origin

DAN IZENBERG

THE Health and Agriculture ministries will examine the possibility of designating the specific origin of local and imported fruits and vegetables, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh told the Knesset Economics Committee last week.

Sneh spoke during a discussion on the hygienic problems involved in the export of fruits and vegetables from the Gaza Strip to Israel.

According to a statement issued after the meeting, the Health Ministry lifted the import ban on Gaza-produced fruits and vegetables imposed after the cholera outbreak in October, but continues to bar certain produce, including zucchini, hot peppers, spinach, and parsley.

The ministry said the number of substandard samples of agricultural produce from Gaza taken in the month after the cholera outbreak was 23 percent, compared with 5 percent between November 22 and December 22.

Despite the improvement, Sneh urged consumers to continue taking special care to wash fruits and vegetables.

Committee chairman Gideon Patt (Likud) accused the government of jeopardizing the health of its citizens in order to fulfill its commitments to the Oslo Accord.

Patt demanded that the Health Ministry provide the appropriate equipment, storage facilities, laboratories, and manpower so that examination of Gaza produce will be completed "before the public is finished eating it."

"Who gave you the right to endanger the health of the public or demand that it determine for itself which tomato was grown in unhygienic conditions in Gaza?" he asked.

Patt also demanded to know why the ministry did not hold up the import of produce from Gaza until it had the proper equipment to examine it.



Palestinian Preventive Security Service recruits display some of their skills, including jumping out of moving cars, at a ceremony Friday on Jericho's soccer field. A total of 233 new agents were inducted into the force, headed by Col. Jibril Rajoub. (Khaled Zighar)

Frenkel: Government should cut spending

BANK of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel on Friday called for significantly reducing government expenditure and slowing economic growth to prevent an increase in inflation.

Speaking to businessmen in Tel Aviv, Frenkel praised Finance Minister Avraham Shohat for passing his budget without having to add to it. However, he noted, "The budget grew significantly, as did income from taxes. We don't have to spend all the taxes, we can leave some in reserve and thereby significantly reduce government expenditure, which would lead to stability in the economy and reduce prices."

The economy grew by 6.8% last year, Frenkel said, as compared to 3.4% in 1993, much of it due to an increase in private consumption which led to a drop in

savings and an increase in the gap in the balance of payments. Frenkel said that increase should be cut, so that economic development is based on exploiting industrial infrastructure and increasing productivity.

Frenkel attacked those who criticize raising interest rates, saying current rates are not high. He said industrialists and businessmen are "standing in line" to arrange "shekel credit, despite the fact that easier credit rates are available abroad.

The governor complained that fighting inflation had lost its place on the list of the nation's priorities, adding that American and European economic officials worry about every rise in their inflation rates. He said inflation this year is expected to be 8-11%, and that this goal could definitely be met. (Itim)

Kessar appoints panel to help create Gaza port

HAIM SHAPIRO and RACHEL NEIMAN

TRANSPORT Minister Yisrael Kessar has appointed a team of Israeli shipping and port experts to examine possible cooperation between Israel and the Palestinian Authority on establishing a port in Gaza, as stipulated in the Cairo agreement.

The new port is expected to cost over \$500 million and will take several years to construct. The experts chosen are from both

the ministry and private industry. At the same time, Kessar revealed that the ministry is to invest over NIS 3 billion in renovations and improvements for the Haifa and Ashdod ports.

The minister said he was not concerned about competition from Gaza. On the contrary, he said, only through competition would the Israeli ports remain efficient.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two killed, four seriously injured on roads

Two Nazareth women were killed on Friday night on the Shfaram-Nazareth road, when the car in which they were traveling was hit head-on by a pickup truck whose driver veered into their car's path for unknown reasons.

The driver of the car suffered serious injuries, as did the driver of the pickup and one of his passengers.

In Rishon LeZion, a pedestrian, 40, was seriously hurt last night when he was hit by a car as he was crossing the road under the Rishon LeZion overpass. (Itim)

Lod storekeeper stabbed in back

A Lod resident was stabbed in the back on Friday morning by an unidentified attacker who entered his store. Police said the stabbing apparently involved a criminal dispute.

Storekeeper Shimon Ben-Shoham, 35, was brought to Assaf Harofeh Hospital, where he was listed in serious condition. (Itim)

Homeless man dies of exposure in Haifa

An unidentified homeless man was found dead in Haifa's Hadar Hacarmel region Friday. Police and Magen David Adom crews were called to Herzliya Street by local residents, who had found the man's body in a stairwell niche in their apartment building. Although he was known to have frequented the area recently, no identifying documents were found on his body and police are asking the public's help in identifying him. (Itim)

Woman's body found in Wadi Kelt

The naked body of a woman police believe to be that of a missing Jerusalem area resident was found by a hiker in Wadi Kelt yesterday. Fool play is not suspected in her death.

Martina Rittmeyer of Anatot, in her early 40s, sneaked out her bedroom window at 2 a.m. wearing only a bathrobe about two weeks ago, and had not been seen since. Rittmeyer had complained of severe depression to friends and family.

The body found in Wadi Kelt was being examined last night at the National Forensics Institute at Abu Kabir to see if it was Rittmeyer, said Dep. Cmdr. Effi Ardelt of the Judea District police. There were no signs of violence, and she had been dead for several days or more, Ardelt said.

Ten arrested at acid party

Ten people suspected of organizing and attending an acid party near the gas station at the entrance to Kfar Habad were arrested early yesterday morning.

Police estimated some 400 people attended the party, music from which was heard at Kfar Habad and nearby Beit Dagan, whose residents called police. (Itim)

Kach members open fire in Hebron

Five Kach members fired at Arab houses in the Hebron region yesterday, damaging houses, solar heaters, and cars, after they were stoned while guarding a group of 30 haredim on a tour, according to Kach spokesman Noam Federman. Police are searching for the five. (Itim)

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

Rabbi

Dr. HYMAN J. ROUTTENBERG ז"ל

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, January 1, 1995 (29 Tevet 5755) at 11:30 a.m.

at the Sanhedria funeral parlor, Jerusalem.

Burial at Gush Etzion Cemetery.

Shiva at Nofei Yerushalaim, 25 Shachrai street.

The Family

We deeply mourn the untimely passing of

Dr. CHAIM ISAAC HEIFETZ ז"ל

son of Rabbi Nisan and Mona ז"ל

Funeral today, January 1, 1995 (29 Tevet), at the Sanhedria funeral home in Jerusalem, at 6 p.m. (2 hours after arrival of El Al 014 from NY.)

Shiva: Wife and children will sit in Baltimore Brothers at 10/3 Hapisa St. Bayit Vagan, Jerusalem

In deep sorrow we announce the passing at a ripe old age of

EDITH KRAKAUER (née Lederman)

widow of Paul

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, January 1, 1995 at 13:00, at the Old Cemetery, near the military cemetery in Haifa.

Mourning by:

Her son and his wife: Dan and Aviva Krakauer

Her daughter and her husband: Ruth and Isaac Hasmonay

The granddaughters and their husbands: Daphna and Gad Haran

Dalia and Shlomi Eyal

Tami and Yaron Feintuch

Dorit and Shai Raifer

Her grandson: Uri Hasmonay

Her great-grandchildren: Tal, Roi, Yael, Amit, Maya and Shahar

Clal denies TV report of wrongdoing

CLAL'S management yesterday strongly denied accusations of fraud and keeping information from the public made against it on Channel One's *Mabat* news-reel Friday night.

"It's a lie to accuse Clal management of covering up illegal behavior and fraud. All the accusations made on television were investigated a long time ago by the company's control division, and conclusions were drawn, and the company made sure no one was harmed," said David Weinsal, Clal Israel's managing director.

Weinsal denied the report, which he said presented a one-sided picture of charges filed by Amir Rosen, a former employee fired by the company, in Tel Aviv District Court. Galit Lipitz



ISRAEL POLICE
National Headquarters /
Investigations Branch /
Missing Persons Bureau

The Israel Police requests the assistance of the public in identifying the body of an unknown man, who was found on Mandarin Beach in Tel Aviv on December 18, 1994.

Description: About 50 years old. Height, 188 cm. Dressed in a checked shirt, blue jeans with a De Jutto label, brown belt with a brown knife sheath, brown shoes, size 39. In his pocket were keys engraved with the letter G, a key ring, and a picture of a woman resembling a nun, and labels stamped "Jesus Puente B."

Anyone with information leading to his identification is asked to contact 03-6104465, 03-6104444, 02-90844, or any police station.

1501-1502

150 من الدين

Shahak faces difficult challenge

COMMENT

ALON PINKAS

LT.-GEN. Amnon Shahak, who today becomes the IDF's 15th chief of general staff, is inheriting a stronger and more versatile military machine than his predecessor, Ehud Barak, had received. But he is also undertaking what may be the most challenging, problematic, and politically explosive tenure of any chief of general staff before him.

When Barak assumed command of the IDF in April 1991, the Soviet Union was no longer a superpower, the Gulf War was over, missiles were introduced into the Mideast military equation, and Iran loomed as a strategic threat. Barak, and Shahak as his deputy, were the architects of the IDF's long-range military capability to confront these threats.

Shahak will continue the long-term buildup through acquisition, development, and fiercely struggling to prevent defense budget cuts. He may enjoy significant improvement in Israel's strategic environment, but if war develops, it will be different from anything Shahak has ever experienced.

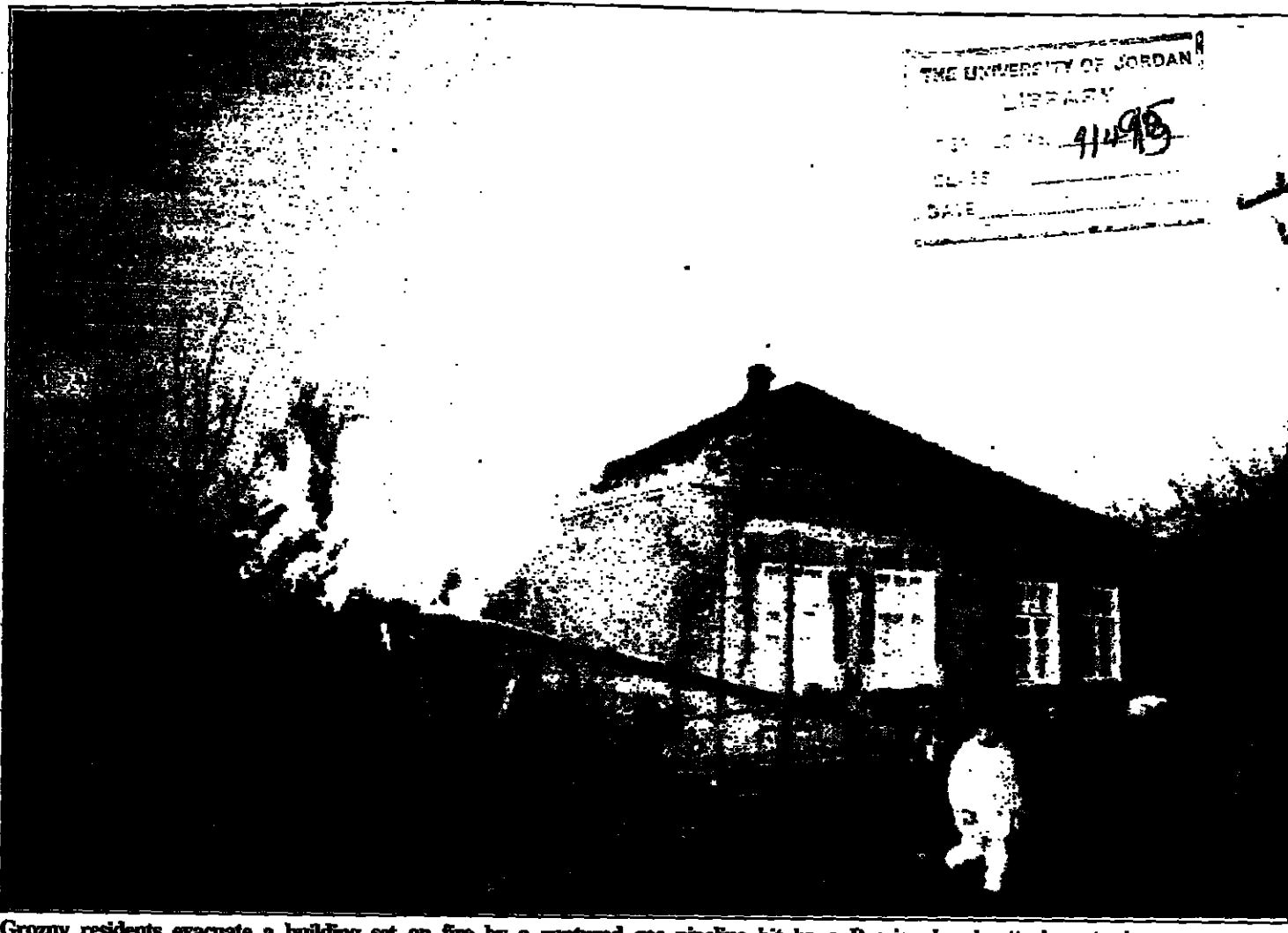
His predecessors Ya'acov Dori and Yigal Yadin in 1948, Moshe Dayan in 1956, Yitzhak Rabin in

1967, Haim Bar-Lev in 1969-70, and David Elazar in 1973 all oversaw major developments of systems and doctrine, but none had to confront the profoundly different military realities Shahak may face.

One urgent problem will be Shahak's first priority: how to compile better intelligence on and devise better methods to combat Hizbullah. But over the long term, his most important challenges will involve the continuation of the peace process, which is expected to include a redeployment in the territories, as well as the possible dismantling of settlements and withdrawal from parts of the Golan Heights. Any of these will not do much to restore the IDF's tarnished image.

There will also be elections within the next two years. Shahak may thus become the third CGS (following Mordechai Gur in 1977 and Ehud Barak in 1992) during whose tenure the government changed hands.

The tasks are formidable. But as his peers often note, few know the IDF inside and out better than Amnon Shahak.



Grozny residents evacuate a building set on fire by a ruptured gas pipeline hit by a Russian bomb attack yesterday. (AP)

Chechen parliament set ablaze

GROZNY (AP) - Russian ground forces launched a ferocious assault on the Chechen capital and appeared to break into the city yesterday. Heavy artillery and rocket fire set numerous buildings ablaze in the center, including parliament next to President Dzhokhar Dudayev's palace.

The government of the rebel republic claimed the long-expected Russian storming of Grozny was under way. Dudayev declared that tiny Chechnya was winning a "moral victory" by still holding out after nearly three weeks under siege.

The ITAR-Tass news agency reported that his palace, a concrete edifice about 10 stories tall, also was on fire. The report could not immediately be confirmed.

Heavy machine-gun and rifle fire resounded through downtown Grozny. Firefighters were heard in the central, northern and southwestern parts of the capital. Russian Sukhoi fighter-bombers swooped overhead.

Terrified remaining residents hid in cellars and bomb shelters as shells slammed into the city at the rate of two or three a minute at one point.

Thick smoke from at least nine fires burning at an oil refinery and elsewhere in the industrial district turned the ravaged city as black as night soon after the attack began at midday.

One Russian bomb struck a prison in the capital and killed 26 prisoners, a Chechen spokesman told the Moscow Echo radio station. No further details were available.

Bloodied and dazed Chechen fighters ran for cover but said they would not give up.

"Despite the great might of the Russian army which is attacking Grozny, the people of Chechnya have already won a moral victory," Dudayev said in a New Year's address to the people of Chechnya and Russia, according to the Interfax news agency.

An unnamed spokesman for the Russian Defense Ministry de-

nied Grozny was being stormed, but indicated troops were carrying out orders to strike deep into the city and bring armed gangs under control, the Interfax news agency reported.

The assault appeared to come from at least two directions, north and southwest.

By mid-afternoon, the picture was chaotic. Rockets pounded the central part of the city and some fighters exchanged rounds of tracer bullets a few hundred meters (yards) from the presidential palace.

Dudayev was reported to be in a bunker under the palace along with a delegation of Russian parliament members opposed to the Chechnya intervention. Just opposite, 50 meters away, flames leapt from the parliament building.

Interfax quoted a Chechen Foreign Ministry official as reporting new fires at the oil refinery as a result of artillery and bomb attacks. Russian shells on Friday also had landed danger-

ously close to a nearby ammonia plant where both sides say a huge amount of toxic chemical is stored.

"The city is threatened by an ecological catastrophe," Viktor Shenis, a visiting Russian lawmaker, said yesterday. "We have to smother the fire before it reaches the explosive materials. Instead of that, the Russian soldiers are shooting at civilian houses."

Russia's Federal Counterintelligence Service denied having bombed the refinery. It accused Dudayev's forces of digging trenches, filling them with oil and setting them ablaze to give the impression of a large-scale fire, then blaming Russia.

About a half-dozen people remained on the street near a Grozny bread stand as the shelling and fighting raged around them.

"Look, this is our New Year's gift from Yeltsin," said Alikha Makhmadova, 43, in the central market. "Thanks a lot to these guys for our New Year."

Man nabbed for Boston abortion clinic killings

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) - A man charged with killing two women and wounding five other people in shootings at two abortion clinics near Boston was arrested yesterday.

John C. Salvi III was arrested in Norfolk, Virginia, said Federal Bureau of Investigation agent Stephen Morrill in Boston. Salvi had been sought on charges of murder and armed assault with intent to murder in the shootings Friday.

A warrant for his arrest was issued early yesterday after police linked him to a handgun, ammunition and a receipt found in a duffel bag dropped by the gunman at one of the clinics in Brookline, outside Boston.

The slayings brought to five the number of people killed in shootings at abortion clinics since 1993. Salvi was arrested after a gunman opened fire on a building housing an abortion clinic in Norfolk on Saturday. No one was injured in the shooting about 11:30 a.m. at the Hillcrest Clinic in Norfolk, clinic spokeswoman Suzanne Caton said.

Witnesses at both clinics gave similar descriptions Friday of the gunman dressed all in black and his behavior.

Freed pilot returns to US

ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska (AP) - Army helicopter pilot Bobby Hall arrived back in the US on Friday, freed from 13 days of captivity in North Korea.

Hall, captured after his helicopter went down over North Korea on Dec. 17, was released after the US government expressed regret for what it called a navigational error - not a spy mission, as claimed by the North.

North Korea said it had shot down the helicopter. But in his initial debriefing, Hall said all he knew was "something happened to the helicopter" and he had landed it without crashing, according to a senior Pentagon official.

President Clinton, after a late-night conversation with Hall, said the pilot "was held for too long."

Cold feet expected as new health law begins

BACKGROUND

JUDY SIEGEL

ONE of the most momentous policy changes in the history of the state goes into effect today, but most Israelis - except for the 200,000 who have been insured until now - will not immediately feel the impact of the national health insurance system.

People will be aware of the good news - or the bad - when they pay their first monthly health tax bill in February as pay-check deductions or directly to the National Insurance Institute. It will take somewhat longer to assess whether they get more, or less, medical care for their money. Confusion and complaints are inevitable, at least during the running-in stage.

"It's natural for the population - patients and doctors - to get cold feet before such a major change," says Dr. Bruce Rosen, head of the health policy research program at the JDC-Brookdale Institute in Jerusalem. "But it would be wrong to brand the new system a failure because of the bugs and confusion in the beginning. One must look at the long-term trends to gauge its effects."

Rosen, a Harvard-trained economist who settled here in 1986 after working as a planner at Boston City Hospital, will supervise a Brookdale team commissioned by the Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee to monitor implementation of the law. Senior Health Ministry officials sit on Brookdale's board, but Rosen says the institute has always insisted its research be conducted independently and all findings be made public.

Although other public research groups and the Health Ministry itself will be studying implementation of the law, the verdict of the Brookdale team will greatly interest the government.

The key objectives of the new system, explains Rosen, are to create universal coverage, ensure the public's free choice of insurers, make it more equitable, channel all health taxes to medi-

cal care (without political organizations siphoning off some of the money), and fairly compensate the health funds for their members' treatment.

The government's long-term aims are to free the Health Ministry from providing medical services, taking a supervisory role instead, and to allow the insurers to provide continuous care.

But many people - particularly those with vested interests - have a number of major concerns, and the Brookdale team will examine how the system works to assess whether they are justified.

Some fear the health tax is a way of increasing the tax burden on the middle and upper class; others say the system gives the government too much of a say in an area that should largely be governed by supply and demand.

Others worry the bill could increase social gaps by encouraging the wealthier sectors to seek private care, because the basket of health services will be "inadequate." Critics argue the Treasury might try to save money by steadily reducing its share in funding health services. They argue that insurers with a younger membership will receive lower NII allocations and find it difficult to provide preventive, geriatric, and psychiatric care.

Rosen says his team will look at trends, such as will health funds try to evade the requirement to accept all applicants, or will long queues for operations form because of a budgetary squeeze in the hospitals, or will the average citizen get less medical care for his money?

The health funds' share of members will be a key indicator of the level of satisfaction with their services. On the eve of the change, the NII issued the latest health fund membership figures: 3,305,500 for Clalit (compared to 3,393,000 a year ago); 977,000 for Maccabi (854,000); 468,300 for Leumi (439,000); and 451,300 for Meuhedet (401,000).

Bosnians sign truce

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - The Moslem-led Bosnian government on Saturday signed an agreement for a four-month cessation of hostilities in Bosnia, the UN said.

The Bosnian Serbs were expected to sign last night in their headquarters at Pale, near Sarajevo.

United Nations special envoy Yasushi Akashi said: "We finally managed to agree on a comprehensive cessation of hostilities."

He added: "I am proceeding with General Rose (the UN military commander) to Pale to have them (the Bosnian Serbs) sign an identical agreement."

The four-month cease-fire, which arose from a peace mission to Bosnia earlier in December by former US president Jimmy Carter, is intended to pave the way to a negotiated settlement of Bosnia's 33-month war.

Commenting on the Bosnian government's reservations about the agreement, which the Serbs have already said they will sign, Rose said: "There were one or two points - what I would call workshopping."

The Bosnian government wanted the accord to contain tougher language on the demilitarization of Sarajevo. It also wanted an end to fighting around the Bihac enclave.

Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said he wanted a truce in Bihac and the opening of so-called "Blue Routes."

Roadsweeper on UK honors list

LONDON (Reuters) - Rock guitarist Eric Clapton, film producer David Puttnam and a roadsweeper were among 1,000 people honored yesterday for their contributions to British life.

The New Year Honors List includes names from sport, showbusiness and the arts like film writer Richard Curtis and Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson.

But in line with Prime Minister John Major's drive to break down Britain's class barriers, the list includes hundreds of ordinary people who have dedicated their lives to good causes.

Roadsweeper Richard Currie was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for keeping Alton's roads clean even after he was hurt in a mugging.

Ringworm victims to get compensation

THE law compensating residents whose health was damaged by government-ordered exposure to radiation to "treat" ringworm in immigrants during the 1940s and 1950s goes into effect today.

Immigrants who contracted cancer after undergoing such radiation exposure - then regarded as a way of treating the skin disease - may file applications for compensation in district health offices. Only those who immigrated between January 1946 and December 1960 who underwent the radiation "treatment" and later developed cancer may apply. A committee of experts will decide each case and set disability ratings.

Those found to have between 40 and 74 percent disability will get a one-time compensation of NIS 50,000. Those with over 75 percent disability will get a one-time grant of NIS 100,000, while monthly allotments may also be awarded. Those with less disability may also get grants. Survivors of such victims may also be compensated. JUDY SIEGEL

Gasoline prices up

The Energy Ministry announced the following changes in gasoline prices as of midnight last night:

The price of 96 octane gasoline went up 1.9% and is now NIS 2.14 per liter compared with NIS 2.10; unleaded gas is NIS 2.08 per liter, up 2% from NIS 2.04; light industrial fuel is now 2.5% cheaper, while heavy industrial fuel is 0.5% less. However, the price of naphtha rose 12%.

Palestinian postal services start

The Palestinian Authority is to inaugurate its independent postal services in Gaza and Jericho today, a PA official said yesterday.

Ahmed Skalk, director-general of the authority's communications ministry, said PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will stamp the first letter at a ceremony in Gaza City today.

Reuters

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

REGARDING THE PUBLICATION OF A PROSPECTUS OF MORIAH P.K.N. - MUTUAL FUND FOR FOREIGN RESIDENTS

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Article 31 of the Joint Investments Trust Law, 5754-1994, regarding the publication of a prospectus in the matter of an offer to the public of foreign residents of an unlimited number of units valued at U.S. \$1 (hereinafter "Dollar") nom. val. each, registered in the name of the holder, but not less than 100 units in one purchase or more, at variable unit prices as set out in Chapter 2 of the prospectus:

Units Offered

The fund is an open fund.

The Fund's units are offered to foreign residents who hold a non-resident deposit (not including Israeli resident "exemption holders"), as defined in the Currency Control Law, 5738-1978 and the regulations and permits issued pursuant thereto, for the time being in force (hereinafter referred to as "the Control Law"). (See Paragraph 1.1 below).

Offer at Reduced Price

From 1st January 1995 at 8:30 a.m. and until 31st January 1995 at 2:00 p.m., each of the units is offered in consideration for payment of the unit price as shall be fixed, plus a supplemental rate of 0.5%.

Ordinary Offer

From 31st January 1995 at 2:00 p.m. until 31st December 1995 at 2:00 p.m., each of the units is offered in consideration for payment of the unit price, as shall be fixed, plus a supplemental rate of 1%.

The unit and redemption prices of the Fund's units will be denominated in dollars.

Investment Policy

The Fund Manager will invest some of the Fund's assets in foreign securities in proportions at its discretion and in various classes, although not more than 75% of the Fund's total assets in foreign securities, provided that the total investment abroad and in foreign currency shall not be less than 50% of the Fund's total assets.

The Fund will invest in Israeli securities traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The Fund will be entitled, subject to the provisions of the Currency Control Law 5738-1978, to hold a foreign currency deposit (Patash) in the name of the Fund, for purposes of holding transit balances which come about in the scope of the Fund's operations, at a rate not exceeding the proportion permitted by law - currently 45% - of the Fund's total assets, provided that the proportion of cash in foreign currency, together with the foreign securities which the Fund Manager may purchase, does not exceed 90% of the Fund's total assets.

The Fund may invest up to 10% of its assets in options. In regard to options and the risk factor involved in investing therein, see pages 30-32 of the Prospectus.

The Fund Manager shall file an immediate report in regard to any change in the present investment policy and shall publish an advertisement in at least two daily newspapers widely circulated in Israel, at least one in Hebrew and one in a foreign language (hereinafter "publication in a newspaper"), seven days in advance.

The Fund is an "unrestricted" fund for tax purposes (see Section 7 of the Prospectus).

The main composition of the Fund's investments on average in the last year ending 30th September 1994 (according to the holdings at the end of each month) was as follows: shares traded abroad - approx. 51%; cash (mainly foreign currency) - approx. 10%; shares traded in Israel - approx. 34%; bonds traded abroad - approx. 5%.

The Fund Manager is not committed to maintaining the foregoing investment proportions in the future.

The Fund Manager has an arrangement with the company Merrill Lynch Asset Management (hereinafter referred to as "MLAM") for obtaining information and advice on and executing trade in securities abroad.

The Fund Manager may, at its discretion, contract with another entity for the foregoing purpose.

The Controller of Foreign Currency's Permit (see paragraph 5.3 of the Prospectus)

The Fund's establishment and the offer to foreign residents are in accordance with the Controller of Foreign Currency's Special Permit which is in force until 31st December 1995. The Fund Manager will act in order to extend the term of the Special Permit.

The Fund Manager's and the Trustee's Remuneration

Pursuant to the Fund Agreement, the Fund Manager is entitled to receive an annual payment equal to 4% of the average annual value of the Fund's total assets, and the Trustee is entitled to receive an annual payment equal to 0.5% of the average annual value of the Fund's total assets.

Until otherwise decided by the Fund Manager (with the Trustee's consent), the remuneration of the Fund Manager will be at a rate of 1.5% and the remuneration of the Trustee will be at a rate of 0.2%. MLAM's remuneration will be paid from the Fund Manager's remuneration. (See Section 6 of the Prospectus). [Up to and including 8th November 1994 the Fund Manager's remuneration was 1.3% of the average annual value of the Fund's total assets].

Details of the change in the redemption price compared with other indices:

	Change in the Year Ended 30th September	1994	1993
Redemption price (in dollar terms)		-9.2	7.7
Redemption price (in Israeli currency terms)		-4.6	26.9
Consumer Price Index		13.8	10.4
Representative rate of the dollar		3.0	17.9

The Hebrew version of the Prospectus is the binding one. The English translation of this Prospectus appears on the back thereof. The translator of the Prospectus has confirmed that the English translation accurately reflects the Hebrew text (the certificate is appended at the front of the English translation).

Copies of the Prospectus and the Permit from the Securities Authority for publication thereof have been submitted to the Registrar of Companies. Copies of the Prospectus can be obtained from all branches of Bank Hapoalim B.M., as well as from members of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. Applications for ordering the units can be obtained at the above mentioned places.

This notice does not constitute an offer for the purchase of units of the Fund.

The Trustee:

The Fund Manager:

Israel Discount Bank Trust Co. Ltd.

Poalim - Mutual Funds Ltd.

Poalim - Mutual Funds Ltd.

1st January 1995

P.K.N.

Common themes in diverse New Years

DESPITE outward differences, common threads ran through New Year's celebrations around the world: jubilation, libation, thronging crowds, fireworks and an attempt to forget the old and welcome the new.

Millions visited churches, temples or shrines, while others partied the night away with anything from songs to explosives.

In Tokyo, trains that usually shut down about midnight were running all night, full of tipsy revelers basking in Japan's most-celebrated national holiday.

Many gathered at shrines of Japan's Shinto religion, others at Buddhist temples, tossing coins, praying for a fruitful year, ringing bells, lighting incense and drinking warm amazake, a sweet rice wine.

Leaders in Asia took the chance to send good tidings to their people and the world.

Chinese President Jiang Zemin greeted "compatriots" throughout the world, whether at home, in Taiwan or Hong Kong, or overseas, noting their struggles and sufferings this century, the Xinhua news agency reported.

He cited 1995 as the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the 50th anniversary of the "victory of the anti-fascist war," World War II.

Japanese Emperor Akihito, whose father Hirohito was emperor during the war, called for Japanese to remember its victims and be "mindful of the toil and trouble" of those who labored to bring Japan's post-war prosperity.

Other governments tried to thwart possible dangerous side effects of New Year's fun. The Philippines and Vietnam tried to crack down on firecracker use. Police in Vietnam confiscated stocks of firecrackers, but they sounded throughout Hanoi after night fell, before a ban on them took effect at midnight.

In the Philippines revelers were sure to uphold tradition and set off firecrackers and shoot guns at the stroke of midnight.

Last year, six died, five by stabbing and one by a stray bullet, and more than 700 were treated for firecracker wounds on New Year's.

Hong Kong authorities, with memories of a 1993 New Year's Day bar district stampede which killed 21 still fresh in their minds, staged a celebration at Victoria Park for the second year in a row. AP

Year of chaos closes with some hope

ANALYSIS
NICHOLAS DOUGHTY

FROM Chechnya to Rwanda and Bosnia, conflict, misery and chaos stalked the world in 1994, making a mockery of hopes that a new order could emerge five years after the end of the Cold War.

But, as the millennium approaches, it was a year that generally lived up to the 20th century's reputation as the most destructive and bloody in history.

There was much talk of peace-keeping but often little peace to keep. The United Nations now has more than 80,000 personnel deployed in more than a dozen missions around the globe.

But behind fine words, institutions like the United Nations, NATO and the European Union seemed increasingly impotent and overstretched by the pace of change.

Russia, still struggling to overcome the Soviet legacy and build a sound economy, took a tougher line with its Western partners over Bosnia, Iraq and NATO.

The United States floundered in foreign policy, raising troubling questions about traditional US leadership of the Western world.

The US sent troops to Haiti in September, narrowly averting an open conflict with the military rulers before they stepped down.

Russia sent troops and tanks into the breakaway region of Chechnya in December and tried to keep the lid on conflicts in other parts of the troubled Caucasus region on its southern rim.

New threats and worries were added to existing problems - the smuggling of nuclear materials, the risk that North Korea and others might have atomic weapons and the continued rise of Islamic fundamentalism in countries such as Algeria.

Perhaps more than anything else, 1994 will be remembered as the year in which the world stood by and watched as up to one million people

were slaughtered in a tiny African republic.

The massacres and renewed war in Rwanda, which set minority Tutsi rebels against the Hutu majority, was touched off by the assassination of the country's president in April.

Three months later the rebels had won. Refugee camps in the region are filled mainly with Hutus, fearful of retribution after the massacres. Most of those who died were Tutsis.

In Bosnia too the killing went on as the war entered its third winter.

Europe's worst conflict since World War II defied every diplomatic effort to end it, despite the emergence of a new coalition including the United States and Russia in the five-nation "contact group."

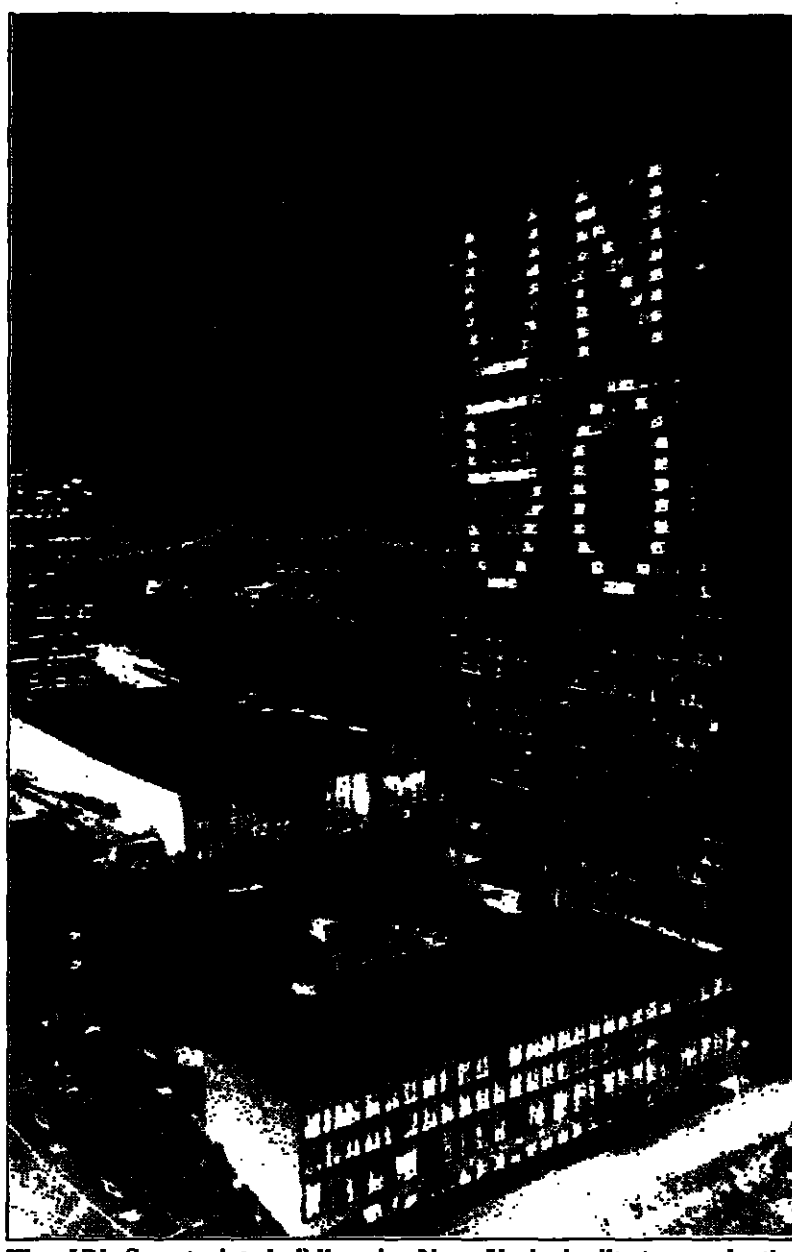
But the United Nations decided it was too risky for peacekeepers to call in more NATO strikes in defense of so-called "safe areas" like Bihac.

South Africa provided one of the few bright spots on a continent ravaged by poverty, disease, instability and wars that continued in countries such as Angola.

Nelson Mandela, imprisoned under the apartheid regime, became president after the first all-race elections in April. His victory drew a line under the era of white domination and ended South Africa's international isolation.

Terrorist attacks in Israel and the bombing of a Jewish community center in Buenos Aires which killed almost 100, showed that 1970s-style political violence had not disappeared despite the capture of terrorist mastermind "Carlos the Jackal" in August.

Iraq, desperate for relief from UN sanctions that followed the 1991 Gulf War, sent troops to the Kuwait border in October, forcing the United States to deploy thousands of soldiers to the Gulf before Baghdad backed off. Yemen was torn by civil war.



The UN Secretariat building in New York is lit to mark the organization's 50th anniversary, which will be celebrated throughout 1995. The UN now has more than 80,000 personnel deployed in more than a dozen missions around the globe. (AP)

In Europe, NATO and the European Union (EU) started discussions about taking in former communist states, who are eager to join the rich Western clubs and find stability.

Sweden, Austria and Finland voted to join the 12-nation EU. Norway decided to remain outside.

Many governments seemed weak and unpopular. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl saw his majority cut in elections and French President Francois Mitterrand fell seriously ill.

In Italy, a political revolution swept the old order from power in March. But Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi found himself dogged by allegations of mismanagement and was forced to resign after only nine months in power.

There was a real breakthrough in one of the world's longest-running conflicts, between the British government and the IRA in Northern Ireland when the IRA and Unionist militias declared a ceasefire.

There were questions about China, potentially the dominant power in Asia and set to take over Hong Kong in 1997.

With Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping looking increasingly feeble and frail, who will take over at a time when the country is developing economically at breakneck speed?

Japan, locked in disputes with the United States over trade, was wracked by unremitting political upheaval that brought in a Socialist prime minister for the first time in nearly 50 years.

On the brighter side, more than 100 countries signed the world's biggest free trade pact, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) came into force and 18 countries from the Asia-Pacific region pledged to work for free trade in their booming region within 25 years.

The writer is the chief international diplomatic correspondent of Reuters.

Wanted: Ideas for New Year 2000

NEW YORK (AP) - Wanted: Party plan.

The place: Times Square. The occasion: New Year's Eve 1999, when the year 2000 will be just minutes away.

An international contest was announced yesterday seeking ideas for the perfect way to observe the millennium in Times Square, where the dropping of the legendary ball has been celebrated on New Year's Eve for 87 years.

The winner gets an all-expenses paid trip to New York City to take part in the celebration.

"A thousand years ago, Constantinople was considered the crossroads of the world. Today it's

Times Square," said Gretchen Dykstra, president of the Times Square Business Improvement District. "Hmmm... not a bad theme."

"The new year comes in 24 different time zones, and we are the crossroads of the world," Dykstra said. "People could play off that idea."

All proposals must maintain the tradition of lowering the ball at midnight, followed by confetti.

The deadline for proposals is Sept. 1, 1995. Submissions should be sent to - where else? - P.O. Box 2000, Times Square Station, New York, N.Y. 10108.

About 300,000 people were expected to jam the square for this New Year's Eve countdown.

Up to 70 conflicts taking place worldwide

WASHINGTON (AP) - The year drew to a close on a world riven by violence.

Intelligence gatherers counted about 70 conflicts in 1994.

The threat of superpower conflict has all but vanished. In its place, Haiti, Rwanda, Somalia, Bosnia, Persian Gulf, and North Korea became the focal point for debate on US defense policy in the last year.

Just how many wars are going on at any one time is a subject of some disagreement.

The National Defense Council Foundation, a research group based in Alexandria, Virginia, is about to send US intelligence agencies an analysis citing 70 conflicts in 1994, up from 62 in 1993.

Other groups are more conservative in their count, refusing to include drug wars, for example.

The Center for Defense Information, another Washington-area

research organization, says there are 29 ongoing conflicts, the largest group of them concentrated in the political and cultural cauldron of central Asia including India, Pakistan, and Tajikistan.

Jane's Defense Weekly, the authoritative British-based publication, counts five "flash points" around the world among dozens of lesser conflicts: Bosnia; Congo, beset by ethnic violence; Russia with the civil war in break-

away Chechnya; the Solomon Islands, where the government is concerned about an expanding revolutionary army; and the Sudan, where fighting continues between government forces and southern rebels.

The United Nations has peace-keeping operations under way in such places as Rwanda, Cyprus, Haiti, the former Soviet republic of Georgia, Lebanon, India, El Salvador and Kuwait.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE PUBLICATION OF A PROSPECTUS OF LAHAK-ANKOR - MUTUAL FUND

Notice is hereby given in accordance with article 31 of the Joint Investments Trust Law, 5754-1994, regarding the publication of a prospectus in the matter of an offer to foreign residents of an unlimited number of 1 New Shekel units each nom. val., registered in the name of the holder, at variable unit prices as set out in Chapter 2 of the prospectus:

The fund is an open fund.

Units Offered

Units in the Fund are offered only to "foreign residents," as defined in the Currency Control Law, 5738-1978 (hereinafter: "the Control Law"). Holders of an Exemption, who are Israeli residents as defined in the Control Law, will not be entitled to purchase units in the Fund.

The transfer of units in the Fund is restricted to foreign residents only.

Payment in respect of purchase of the units shall be made only in New Shekels converted from foreign currency deposited in a non-resident account of a foreign resident or from a non-resident deposit (Shekels) of a foreign resident.

The unit price and the redemption price will be quoted in New Shekels based on the asset value of the Fund in New Shekels.

Offer at Reduced Price

Commencing from January 1, 1995 at 8:30 a.m. and until January 31, 1995 at 2:00 p.m., each of the units is offered against payment of the unit price, as shall be determined, plus an increment of 1.0%.

Regular Offer

Commencing from January 1, 1995 at 2:00 p.m. and up to December 31, 1995 at 2:00 p.m., each of the units is offered against payment of the unit price, as shall be determined, plus an increment at a rate of 2.0%.

Investment Policy

In accordance with its present policy, the Fund will invest its assets in the following manner:

- In Israeli securities traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.
- Up to 10% of its assets in Israeli and foreign securities traded on security exchanges or stock markets abroad.
- Transit balances created within the scope of the Fund's activities will be held in a foreign currency deposit (Patach) in the name of the Fund, in an amount which shall not exceed the percentage permitted by law - presently 45% - and also in a current account in New Shekels for the holding of transit balances in New Shekels until same are invested in securities in accordance with the foregoing, subject to provisions of the Currency Control Law and the regulations and permits pursuant thereto.

The Fund may invest up to 10% of its assets in options. In regard to options and the risk inherent in investing therein, see page 32-34 of the Prospectus.

In regard to any change in the aforesaid investment policy, the Manager of the Fund will file an immediate report and will publish a notice in at least two daily newspapers circulating in Israel, of which at least one shall be a non-Hebrew daily.

The composition of the Fund's investments over the last year ended September 30, 1994 (on the basis of its holdings at the end of each month) were on the average as follows:

In shares, about 83%, in Israeli securities traded abroad, about 6%, in cash (including foreign currency) about 5%.

The Manager of the Fund will make every effort to have the validity of the Special Permit received from the Bank of Israel, Currency Control Division, extended even beyond December 31, 1995. (See Appendix A to the Prospectus).

The Fund is an unrestricted fund for tax purposes (see Chapter 7 of the Prospectus).

Remuneration of Manager of the Fund and of the Trustee

In accordance with the Fund Agreement, the Manager of the Fund and the Trustee are jointly entitled to receive an annual payment equivalent to 3.5% of the average annual value of the total assets of the Fund.

Until otherwise decided by the Manager of the Fund (with the approval of the Trustee), the remuneration of the Manager of the Fund and of the Trustee collectively, will be at a rate of 2.2% of the average annual value of the total assets of the Fund. (See Paragraphs 6.7 and 6.8 of the Prospectus).

Details regarding changes in the Redemption Price as compared with other indices:

Changes in the redemption Price as compared with other indexes:	Change In % for period ending September 30	
	1994	1993
Redemption Price of the Unit	-20.5	39.4
Index of Non-Banking Shares	-23.6	43.1
Representative Rate of the Dollar	5.1	17.9
Dollar Yield on the Units (Net)	-16.4	18.2
Consumer Price Index	13.8	10.4

The Hebrew version is the binding one. The English translation of this Prospectus appears on the back thereof. The translator of the Prospectus has confirmed that the English translation accurately reflects the Hebrew text (the certificate is appended at the front of the English translation).

Copies of the Prospectus and the Permit from the Securities Authority for publication thereof have been submitted to the Registrar of Companies.

Copies of the Prospectus can be obtained from all branches of the American-Israel Bank Ltd. as well as from members of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Applications for ordering the units can be obtained at the above mentioned places.

This notice does not constitute an offer for the purchase of units of the Fund.

Trustee: Israel Discount Bank Trust Company Limited

Manager of the Fund: Lahak-Mutual Fund Management of American-Israel Ltd.

LAHAK MUTUAL FUNDS MANAGEMENT OF AMERICAN ISRAEL LTD.

January 1, 1995

A list of luminaries who died this year

JACQUELINE Kennedy Onassis, Richard Nixon, Kim Il-Sung, and Erich Honecker were among the luminaries who died in 1994.

The former US first lady, who married Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, died of cancer in New York at 64.

Nixon, the former US president died four days after suffering a stroke in New York at 81.

Honecker, the East German ruler who built the Berlin Wall, died unrepentant in exile in Santiago, Chile, of liver cancer at 81.

Kim, another old-line Communist leader, had ruled North Korea since 1948.

Others who passed on this year included two-time Nobel Prize winner Linus C. Pauling, composer Henry Mancini and playwright Eugene Ionesco. Among the notables who died in 1994:

Johan Jorgen Holst, Norwegian foreign minister who led secret talks that forged the Israel-PLO peace accord, died of a

stroke in Oslo, Norway, at 56.

Actress Melina Mercouri, who became Culture Minister of Greece, died of lung cancer in New York City at 70.

Lubavitcher Rebbe Menachem Schneerson died in New York, at 92.

Yeshayahu Leibowitz, one of Israel's leading philosophers died in Jerusalem at 91.

Israel Aaron Meisels, an attorney who successfully defended Nelson Mandela and other anti-apartheid activists in the 1956 "Treason Trial," died in Johannesburg, South Africa, at 89. (AP)

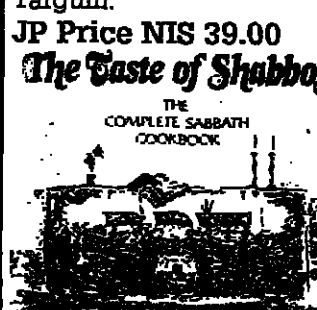
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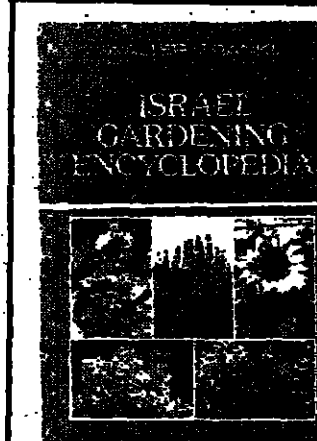
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Painful toes? Ancient Egyptians had a remedy

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

TAKE acacia leaves, soak in a bowl of water and leave them overnight covered with a cloth that absorbs the dew. Drain and grind into a paste — and you've got a concoction that kills abdominal worms.

Mix the fat of an ox with ground acacia leaves — and you've got relief for painful toes.

These pharmaceutical "recipes," deciphered from hieroglyphics, were commonly used among the ancient Egyptians.

An Israeli researcher, who has been to the land of the Pharaohs 20 times since the Israel-Egypt peace treaty was signed, devotes much of her time to understanding the ancient Egyptians through their enigmatic picture script.

Dr. Pina Galpaz-Feller, a Jerusalemite who makes a living as a writer and a lecturer, is one of the few Israelis to specialize in this subject, often comparing her findings with practices in ancient Israel.

"I was religious as a teenager," she says, "and anything about Egypt and Israel fascinated me even from that age." With her doctorate in ancient studies from Newport University in California, she continues to carry out research.

She recently wrote papers on circumcision, and on purity and defilement in ancient Israel and Egypt. Her book on *The Land of the Nile and the World of the Bible* will be published this spring.

"The ancient Egyptians had a special closeness to flowers and green plants," says Galpaz-Feller.

"They used them in pagan rituals and regarded flowers — either singly or in bouquets — as a gift or sacrifice to the gods. They believed that flowers had godly powers emanating from their ability to grow and from their odor."

"The Egyptian god of creation was depicted as a child on the petals of an open lotus flower. A female god, Wadjet, was called 'the god of the papyrus plant' or the 'flourishing god.' The god Min was shown on an altar with lettuce leaves in the background."

The practice of laying flowers on graves dates back to the Egyptians, who



The ancient Egyptians had a special closeness to flowers and green plants, according to Dr. Pina Galpaz-Feller, who has specialized in gleaned an understanding of their lives from hieroglyphics.

believed that they would grant the dead an "eternal spring" or afterlife. The lotus flower, which produced a pleasant aroma, was especially significant, says Galpaz-Feller. The sun god Ra was born in such a blossom.

When Egyptians couldn't grow a certain plant, they brought it back — roots and all — from areas they conquered, as a kind of plunder. "They had specimens from all over the world... They used plants for medicinal purposes, perfumes,

ritual and cooking," she explains. "There are also many drawings of plants on tombs."

Parts of the fir tree were mixed with oil and other ingredients and made into a vaginal suppository to speed up births.

Honey was recognized for its antiseptic properties; acacia leaves constricted blood flow.

Watermelon was used as a diuretic and for eliminating kidney stones. It was also used on poultices on rheumatic limbs and to treat tremors of the hands. Onions were used to soothe insect and snake bites, and their juice was mixed with honey to ease a cough.

The Egyptians used aloe juice for treating ulcers and cinnamon for halting bleeding, she adds. They commonly suffered from constipation. "So they took juniper berries, frankincense, cinnamon and honey and smeared it on the rectum to ease defecation. Garlic was believed to help people suffering from asthma and was also regarded as an aphrodisiac. We know all of this from tomb drawings and hieroglyphics."

GALPAZ-FELLER has also studied the use of plants and flowers for cosmetics. Carob powder was smeared on the face to improve the complexion. Cypress leaves served as a deodorant; when ground and mixed with oils and frankincense, they were touted as an anti-wrinkle preparation. Henna and strawberries served as hair coloring.

Kohl, the eyelid color for which Egyptian women were well known, was prepared from powder of burnt leaves, sunflower seeds and burnt almond shells. Various colors were produced by grinding semi-precious stones, like malachite or lapis lazuli. Kohl had a practical side as well.

"Sand blown into the face by desert winds stuck to the kohl [which thus] protected the eye," says Galpaz-Feller. It also kept flies out of the eyes.

During the last 15 years, Galpaz-Feller has met many archeologists in Egypt, and found Prof. Mohammed el-Hawari of Ain-Hamra University very helpful, even though she doesn't speak Arabic. "My languages are Hebrew, English and hieroglyphics."

They are also curious about her great interest in old Egyptian culture, she says. "Academically trained Egyptians are very conversant with the Bible and ancient Jewish culture and religion," she concludes.

Butter: Low on moisture, low on spoilage

TELL ME WHY

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Why does butter spoil so much more slowly than milk or white or yellow cheese, which are made of the same ingredients? Orin, Haifa.

Orin Alon, a food technologist in Tnuva's milk department, explains:

Milk products can spoil because of the action of various types of microorganisms, including bacteria and fungi. Though the products may be made from the same milk, their composition is different, and this affects the rate at which they spoil.

Milk has a very high percentage of water, white cheese has less, yellow cheese considerably less, and butter has least. Bacteria thrive in moist environments; thus milk and cheeses spoil faster than butter, which is only 16 percent water. Protein, too, is a growth medium for bacteria, and both milk and cheeses have a higher protein content than butter does.

Butter can be stored for up to a year in the freezer and up to three months in the refrigerator.

I bought a new car less than a year ago. I notice that on cold mornings the insides of the windows are all fogged up. This rarely happened to my old, used car. What is the explanation? Moshe, Tel Aviv.

Jerusalem Post motoring correspondent Joel Gordin replies:

Your old car was probably poorly insulated. Your new one is much better insulated, so it stays warmer inside.

Moisture that is in gaseous form inside the car turns to liquid when it comes in contact with the cold window. The greater the difference in temperature between the air outside and that inside the car, the more "fog" is produced.

Putting on the air conditioner full blast for a few seconds will cool the air inside and thus get rid of the fog faster than the electric defroster can.

Why can't a metal screen be attached to the front of jet engines to prevent birds from being sucked into them and causing air crashes? If such screens would melt from the heat, certainly a metal used on spacecraft wouldn't. Yehudit, Jerusalem.

El Al spokesman Nahman Kleinman answers:

Jet designers have tried everything, including such screens. Unfortunately, these are impractical, because screens that will keep birds out also prevent the free flow of air into the engine. There is no heat on the intake side, so high temperature is not a problem. In any case, if the screen collapsed, the birds would push it into the engine. Some airlines have painted a "scarecrow design" on the nose to scare birds away, but it is not very effective. Accidents are also caused by birds colliding with the body of the plane.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, c/o Jerusalem Post & Technology Reporter Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, 91000 Jerusalem, or fax it to (02) 389527. Please include your first name and place of residence. Calls will not be accepted.

Dial 'M' for tonight's video movie

NEW WORLDS
POST SCIENCE REPORTER

BEZEK will offer video-on-demand (VOD), over the telephone wires, on an experimental basis to some 150 homes around the country starting this month. The new technology, which allows simultaneous use of the phone line for calls, gives subscribers a choice of hundreds of films for viewing whenever they choose.

The Communications Ministry has not yet approved VOD services for all, but it apparently is willing to let Bezek — and private entrepreneurs — try it out for four or five months on a small number of homes. Similar experiments are taking place in the US, England, France and elsewhere.

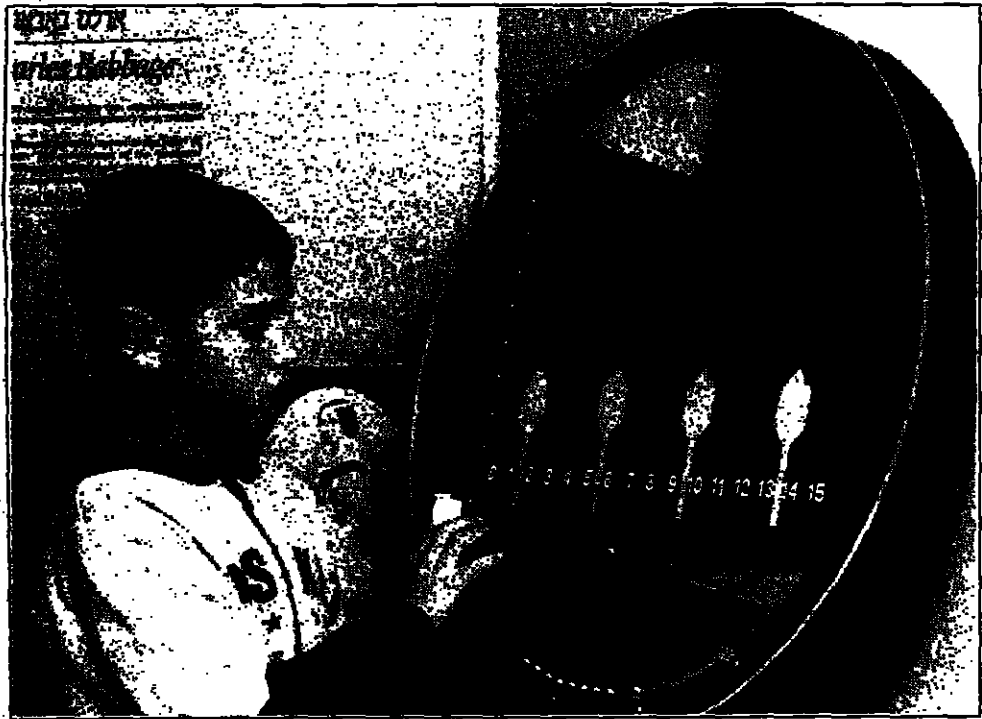
The conventional phone line is linked by a converter to the family TV set; by pressing a button, users can pick a film from a listing, and it is piped in at the requested time; for this, the user pays a fee.

THEY'LL KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN
Key personnel and equipment will never "get lost" with a new locator system developed by Tadiran Communications. The Tadiran system enables organizations to find staffers or objects — such as life-saving devices in hospitals — in seconds.

They may be scattered throughout one or several buildings. The new system uses infrared frequencies, so that special badges automatically transmit the locations. The badge, which carries a special code that identifies each individual or piece, continuously transmits infrared signals to sensors on the ceiling or walls; these sensors route data to the central computer unit, which processes them and shows their exact location at all times.

The system was displayed for the first time at the Telecom exhibition in Tel Aviv this month. Another of the company's new products at the exhibition was a system that gives nurses better communication with hospital patients. When a patient presses a button near his bed, the nurse sees not only his name, but his medical file on a computer screen and a listing of how many times the patient has called. The patient can also inform the nurse automatically how urgent his call is.

A "follow me" feature allows the nurse to answer calls even when she is away from the nurses' station.



Guy Leviatan of Herzliya looks at a model of a primitive computer, part of the new computer exhibit at Haifa's Recanati National Science Museum.

TOUCH-ME COMPUTER EXHIBIT
The secrets of computers are explained to even young children in a new exhibit at the Recanati National Science Museum in Haifa. The exhibition, produced with help from Intel Israel, is — like all the museum's shows — interactive.

The museum is located in the old Technion building on Shmaryahu Levin Street in Hadar Hacarmel. On display are models of historical equipment, such as mechanical calculators, the first transistor (donated by Bell Laboratories and AT&T Israel), and the first microprocessor. Another exhibition explains how a computer chip is made from pure silicon.

Also on show is a giant model of Intel's controversial Pentium chip.

APPLE ARCHIVE
Hundreds of rare apple varieties, some dating to ancient Roman times, are being frozen in liquid nitrogen so they won't be lost to future generations through disease or natural

disasters. For the first time, scientists working for the US Department of Agriculture have preserved 250 of the 2,500 apple varieties grown at the national apple orchard in Geneva, New York.

They hope to freeze an additional 10 percent of the apple "archive" every year, and eventually samples of all of them will be stored away in suspended animation. Most of them may be coaxed into "reanimation" by defrosting.

Plant geneticist Philip Forsline told AP that "chances are good for most of the frozen samples to produce healthy trees after being thawed and grafted to existing rootstock." Until now, only seeds were safeguarded to preserve genetic traits of individual plants, but in crops such as apples, genes must be protected by saving vegetative cuttings, such as buds.

Among the cuttings frozen so far are the "Esopus Spitzenburg," which dates to the American Revolution, and "Lady," among the oldest samples, dating to Roman times.

A wizard of a program

ON LINE
DANIEL BAUM

MICROSOFT recently released the first version of the Access database specially adapted to work in Hebrew.

First the bad news: The program is enormous. Not only does a full installation take up about 35 megabytes of disk space, the program itself, which is supposed to run in six megabytes of RAM, constantly accesses the disk swap file even while running in eight.

This makes using the new Hebrew Access a slow and sometimes annoying experience. I would not recommend using Access in less than 16 megabytes of RAM, which is suitable for the professional database developer, but a waste of money for the amateur who wants only to keep track of recipes at home.

Other than this, Access 2 is what Access should have been from day one.

The Hebrew support is excellent; every part of the system has been translated and adapted to work in Hebrew. A database and all of its objects can be in English, Hebrew, or any mixture of the two.

The main changes are designed to provide more convenience and automation:

Wizards — subprograms which automatically create database objects according to the user's specification — are now available for tables and queries as well as for forms and reports. The Table Wizard gives you a selection of predefined databases for such things as business contacts and video libraries.

The Query Wizard predefines certain types of query which are otherwise difficult to set up, such as duplicate record detection.

It also has one-step forms, which create a simple form at the touch of a button, without going

through the Form Wizard. The Wizards themselves are customizable in Access 2 using the new add-in manager.

Other convenience features include far more comprehensive and customizable toolbars, including little labels which, at the touch of a mouse button, pop up and explain the icons. Also, the right-hand mouse button will bring up a menu containing the relevant commands.

Best of all, new subprograms automate the trickier aspects of application building, such as making a menu bar and constructing an expression. The latter was the most frustrating part of working with the previous version, in which, to reference a value in a different table or form, you had to build a long, complicated expression.

Another subprogram helps you build Windows objects, such as command buttons and list boxes, which was awkward in the previous version.

Access 2 also contains numerous other improvements designed to improve data integrity and speed of access, and enable developers to produce more sophisticated programs.

Despite the excellence of the first version, there was always the feeling it was a basic product, with lots of rough edges. Now it has also been brought into line with other Microsoft products, such as Word and Excel, which have much the same features and user interface.

However, the overall effect is spoiled by the program's slowness.

On Line is changing from a regular column to an occasional feature. Watch for reviews of Lotus 1,2,3 version 5 and Dagesh 2 in the coming months.

Food allergies in infants less common than assumed

HEALTH SCAN
POST HEALTH REPORTER

MILK, soybeans and soy-based infant formula, egg white and peanuts are the most common causes of food allergies in infants and children. Diagnosis of such allergies, which can cause skin outbreaks, inflammation of the nasal passages, bronchial asthma, vomiting or even more severe reactions, is tricky.

Drs. Yael Levy, Benjamin Kornbroth, Itamar Ofer, Ben-Zion Garty and Prof. Yehuda Danon of the Children's Medical Center of Israel in Petah Tikva explain the phenomenon in the latest issue of the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*. Over three years, all babies and children referred to the hospital's allergy unit were studied. Parents were asked to give a complete nutritional history, including duration of breastfeeding, use of formulas and current diet.

The young patients underwent skin tests to determine the suspected cause of the allergy, and most had an "oral challenge" test in which the patient is given a gradually increasing dose of the food suspected of causing trouble. This test is carried out under close supervision in the outpatient clinic, after the patient has not eaten the food for a month. Infants suspected of being allergic to egg albumen were carefully tested because that is a component of some vaccines.

Children under the age of three were most likely to be allergic to cow's milk or infant formula, while older children were most sensitive to cow's milk and egg white, various fruits and vegetables and peanuts. Allergies were more common among the babies and youngest toddlers than in older children; this was due to the relative weakness of the digestive

and immune systems at that age. Babies who relied totally on breastfeeding were not immune to food allergies: What their mothers ate could affect them as well.

The researchers concluded that food allergies in young children are less common than presumed. But those suspected of having them should undergo an immediate skin test.

NO PENICILLIN SHORT-CUT
Prescribing penicillin twice a day for a streptococcal throat infection has been found more effective than the accepted routine of four times a day. The reason is not medical, but psychological. Patients are more likely to quit

taking the drug when they feel better a few days after starting if they need to take the pills only twice, rather than four times, a day. Although they feel better after a short treatment, it takes 10 days of antibiotics for all the bacteria to be killed.

Prof. Raul Raz, head of the infectious diseases department at Afula's Ha'emek Hospital, reached this conclusion in a research study he presented before a recent international conference in Prague.

Raz divided patients into two groups; one group were prescribed penicillin twice a day, and the other four times, for 10 days. Over 90 percent of those prescribed the twice-a-day regime recovered, while only 72% of the others did. Urine checks found that the second group were much less likely to take the full amount of penicillin.

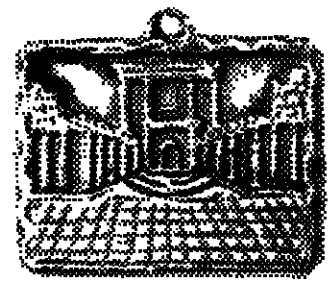
HADASSAH TOPS THE LIST

Nearly a third of all medical research in this country is performed at Hadassah-University Hospitals in Jerusalem. This was one of the findings of the office of the Health Ministry's chief scientist, published in the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*. Dr. Michael Silberman and colleague Donald Berns surveyed all research between 1990 and 1993.


After Hadassah, whose researchers published 930 scientific articles over a three-year period, Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer was second, with 582 articles. Quite a bit behind were Rambam (420), Soroka (415), Ichilov (336) Beilinson (251), Assaf Harofeh (158), and Meir (152). At the bottom were Shaare Zedek (96), Hasharon (91) and Kaplan (38).

Medical research is also conducted at the six universities, but to a much lesser extent.

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The Efrat trap

WHEN the imam of El Khader declared to protesters near Efrat on Friday that, "Every grain of sand between the river and the sea is Moslem land, to which only Moslems have a right," he was cheered by all the demonstrators, whether Fatah followers, Hamas youths, or plain villagers.

From the imam's viewpoint, describing the country as "Moslem" rather than Palestinian or Arab is more honest and accurate than what the PLO usually says. The Arab claim to the land is based not on nationalistic attachment - invented relatively recently for propagandistic purposes - but on the belief that it is part of "Dar al Islam," an area once conquered by Islam, which must stay under its rule.

Aiming at Western audiences, the PLO uses more sophisticated terms. The Western-supported Al-Haq organization, for example, which fronts for the PLO while pretending to be concerned with human rights, uses outright fabrications to give the Arab claim a legal patina. The land in question, its latest bulletin declares, has trees and crops belonging to El Khader villagers.

But to the Palestinian Arabs, such arguments are irrelevant. They care not at all that the land is barren, that it has never been owned by El Khader inhabitants, or that it is state land which has never been cultivated. They view the matter plainly, the way the imam does: it is "Moslem land," illegally occupied by Israel.

In this, of course, they do not differentiate between the unbuilt Efrat suburb of Givat Tamar - the cause of the current protests - and the parts of Efrat that have been built over the past 12 years. Nor is there a difference between Efrat and other towns in Judea and Samaria, or between "the territories" and Tel Aviv. As the imam put it, they are all on "Moslem land."

Only terminal wishful thinkers can believe the imam's opinions do not represent the vast majority of Moslem Arabs. But this does not necessarily mean that a compromise is impossible. The Islamic belief that a sovereign Jewish presence in the country is illegitimate does not ipso facto preclude Arab acceptance of Israel. A pragmatic approach may one day overcome religious conviction.

What does present an overwhelming difficulty on the way to such acceptance is not that Arabs adhere to this Islamic dogma, but that some government ministers seem to agree with them. Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni is too knowledgeable about the facts to claim that the residents of Efrat are doing anything illegal. She knows that the land was declared state land in 1991 only after every resident of the neighboring El Khader was afforded an opportunity to present claims to it.

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It was only after a thorough examination of claims (all of which proved fictitious) that the Supreme Court gave its approval to declaring the area known as Givat Tamar state land. (Other Arab claims, including some for pieces of land which about Efrat residences, were recognized as legitimate, and the El Khader villagers till them freely.) Only after all doubt was removed was the land leased to Efrat residents and approved for construction by the relevant ministries and by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Aloni does not dispute these facts. She just says they are irrelevant, because the hill on which Efrat wants to build a suburb is "occupied land," an area taken by force on which Israelis must not live. This is, of course, precisely what the imam said. Nor can Aloni dispute the Arab contention that there is no difference between Givat Tamar and Efrat itself. Both were "occupied" at the very same time.

The same, of course, applies to the Jerusalem suburbs, which contain 160,000 Jewish residents. It was in the same war of 1967 that they, too, were "occupied." In fact, there is hardly a place in Green Line Israel which was not fought over and taken by force. And if Aloni believes that what excludes Jaffa and Haifa from the description "occupied" is that the UN once resolved that they be included in a Jewish state, then Jerusalem, the Western Galilee and half the Negev, which were not included in this resolution, should also be considered "occupied."

Not only Aloni and the Peace Now and Peace Bloc activists (who fomented the Arab demonstrations) are trapped in this logic. The government, too, must decide whether it should declare Judea and Samaria "occupied areas" to be evacuated, or stick to the Oslo agreement which suspended discussion of the territories' destiny for three years. The Oslo idea was to freeze the status quo until then. But human beings cannot be "frozen." They multiply and expand. And while it may make sense to consider the establishment of new settlements a violation of the status quo, adding a suburb to an existing urban area is a natural development. In fact, not allowing its construction is tantamount to strangulation.

If the government decides to capitulate to the PLO ultimatum (as the PLO's Saib Arikat put it, "You must choose between building in Efrat and peace, you cannot have both") the message will be not only that a riot can change the government's mind. It will be that Efrat and the surrounding towns - on whose ultimate incorporation in Israel there is a national consensus - are going to be abandoned, and that the government's promise not to return to the 1949 armistice lines is meaningless.



1995: What's in store

I can't stand predictions, especially about the future. Thus spake the legendary film mogul Sam Goldwyn. But for once his taste was out of line with that of the general public.

Most people just love hearing and reading predictions, preferably about the future and especially about the near future.

After all, how many people really care what the population of China will be in 2050? Heck, most people below the age of 50 can't even get worked up about the fact that in 20 or 30 years, their governments will probably be unable to pay them the state pensions they have been saving for or have been promised by a supposedly beneficent state throughout their working lives.

But suggest that the government will fall next spring, hint that the stock market will rally in the summer, or even breathe about a coming devaluation, and their attention will be riveted.

In any event, journalistic tradition demands that the turn of the year be accompanied by either a review of the outgoing annum or a preview of the coming one, and since the former option is both boring and depressing, the latter is the only one left, so here goes:

1. Recession? Yes, but let's get our terminology right. In the context of the Israeli economy in the 1990s, a recession is when the pace of economic growth recedes below +3% per annum, not when it slips below zero, as in mature Western economies.

Even so, having to slow down from 120 kph to 50 is dangerous and vehicles in poor shape may go off the road.

2. Interest rates: these will remain high. They'll fall in nominal terms as inflation (q.v.) drops but actually rise in real terms, so that the squeeze on business will get worse. With the government increasingly incapable of cutting its spending, monetary policy will continue to carry the main burden.

3. Inflation? Looks sure to drop, but there are too many factors involved for anyone to guess how far and how fast. The end of the vegetable nonsense will generate low CPI figures in early 1995, but wages and other inputs

PINCHAS LANDAU

could generate problems later on. 4. Housing prices: will get cut by the scissors of rising supply and falling demand, with the latter especially vulnerable to high real interest rates (q.v.). The extent of the fall will vary significantly by area.

5. Devaluation! The biggest bugaboo. The Bank of Israel under Jacob Frenkel will fight against it tooth and nail, because if it comes, there goes their last chance of getting inflation down.

But if interest rates stay too high, too long, the risk of speculative foreign money doing to the shekel what it did to the pound, lira and peseta in September 1992 becomes very real.

Concerned investors should keep checking interest rates, inflation - and their blood pressure.

January 1 can't be allowed to pass without predictions - so here's what is likely to happen in the economy

6. The dollar: could yet be Frenkel's savior. If the wretched American currency finally gets its act together and has a good year (as was widely forecast for 1994, to no avail), the shekel will fall twice as hard against the dollar as against the Bank of Israel's basket of currencies.

This is the easiest, and perhaps the only way to square the circle of keeping control of the shekel while maintaining high domestic interest rates.

7. The stock exchange? It's hardly likely to recover so long as real interest rates remain high. There is also the tax mess to contend with.

Nevertheless, the bear market is now into its second year (the Mishman index peaked in November 1993, well before the collapse in February 1994), so sometime during 1995 we should see a bottom, if past experience is anything to go by. It probably isn't,

and anyway, where the bottom will be is more important than when.

8. Real wages: won't rise much in most sectors. People in private sector firms receiving big wage increases can expect their employers to go bust and/or they or their colleagues to be fired.

Public sector wage rises are unlikely in 1995 after the shambles in 1994, but after that is an election year, which is more promising.

9. The trade deficit: has got to fall, after 1994's stupendous \$8 billion black hole. If the import boom doesn't subside, the rest of the economy will. The trade figures attract much less publicity than the inflation and unemployment figures, but are infinitely more important.

Every month in which the seasonally adjusted deficit is over \$500 million brings a major crisis nearer. If there isn't a clear improvement in the trend by the spring, ignore items 1-5 above, move out of shekels and into foreign currency. Two days before the crisis blows, buy shares in major Israeli exporting companies traded in New York. (That's right, no one will tell you when two days before arrives. You'll just have to guess.)

10. The rest of the world: This large area, by no means devoid of interesting features, is worth keeping an eye on. Places like Russia and China simply cannot be ignored, but don't waste any more time on Balkan *balaganim* or African horror stories.

The really dramatic stuff may well develop closer to home: will Algeria fall to the fundamentalists, or will Egypt go first? Will this be the year that Saudi Arabia goes bankrupt? And will somebody finally polish off Saddam Hussein - or will he outlast the Iranian regime he was unable to destroy in eight years of war, but that is now crumbling under pressure from its own populace?

Whether some or all of these things happen and whether, as is most likely, entirely unexpected events grab center stage, one prediction is a bankable certainty: dull it won't be.

The writer is a columnist for the Telegraph business daily.

Your health!

YOSEF GOELL

THE Ministry of Health last week launched a PR campaign to explain the new National Health Insurance Law, which comes into effect today.

The issue that has caught public and media attention is: Who will be paying more, and who less? This is legitimate, but marginal compared to the major issues involved in making the shift to the new system.

Providing quality health care for the entire populace is a costly enterprise. In the previous system, members of Kapat Holim Clalit paid for care through their Hishdrot dues. Close to 30 percent of these dues were diverted

The new health care system mustn't play favorites

to political and bureaucratic slush funds. Now, national health fees will go entirely to health care, which constitutes major progress.

So does the institution of a more progressive basis for assessing dues. This is as it should be, given the steady widening of the gaps between the rich, the poor, and the large majority in the middle.

TWO CRUCIAL challenges face Health Minister Ephraim Sneh and the administrators and medical professionals who will be putting the new system into place.

They will have to guarantee that the health system does not again fall into the hands of politically motivated bureaucrats. And they will have to make sure there is a reasonable balance between the cost and the quality of medical care delivered.

Health care must not be allowed to cost more than either the people or the economy can afford. At the same time, the services provided must meet the needs of those who are paying for them.

In addition, those running the national health care system must ensure it is truly egalitarian. This requires the establishment of an administrative framework that is responsive both to users' needs and their criticism. The public should have a say in how their health services are delivered.

It is also vital that this framework be as isolated from the political system and the Ministry of Health as our apolitical court system is separate from the Ministry of Justice and the National Insurance Institute is independent from the Ministry of Labor.

The health funds, which will continue to provide the actual services, will be offering supplementary services for extra fees. To ensure that basic health care remains egalitarian, it is important that the health basket, to which all citizens are entitled, be as broad as possible. And the supplementary services should be kept outside the basic basket to ensure that public facilities aren't used to provide a higher level of care for a moneyed few.

If Ephraim Sneh can pull off this major innovation, it will improve his chances in the contest for the leadership of the Labor Party.

The writer comments on public affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE YESHA FUND

Sir, - Various statements were made by Shlomo Hillel (and later amplified by Yehiel Leket) against the Yeshu Fund in Europe, whose establishment I had the honor to propose during a European Likud Congress.

If Mr. Hillel, as a responsible Keren Hayesod leader, seeks to designate a "saboteur," then the proper address for such a nomination is his own political party, to wit Israel's foreign minister, Shimon Peres. With unflinching energy better employed in more worthy causes, Mr. Peres flits about the world importing funds for PLO terrorists. The fact that the entire world knows that these funds wind up directly in the pockets of Yasser Arafat, his cronies and gangs in Lebanon and the Jerusalem Wafk does not deter Mr. Peres from crying in Paris or Brussels about the parous state of Palestinian finances. He lets slip no opportunity before whatever Jewish audience remains available to him to call for contributions to the United Jericho Contributions.

If Mr. Hillel is not comfortable with designating Mr. Peres as the "saboteur," then he could always turn to Mr. Beilin, who declared that Israel requires funds from neither world Jewry nor the Jewish Agency. And if Mr. Hillel dares not pin the label on Mr. Peres's deputy, then he could always find an apt target in those elements of Mr. Dimitz's behavior which eroded and destroyed world Jewry's faith in the integrity of the institution which he chaired.

I further contend that Keren Hayesod's insistence that it cannot invest its funds across the Green Line because United States law bars it from doing so, is part of a continuing and blatant lie. Federal authorities have long since denied that this is the case. The Jews of Judea, Samaria and Gaza are therefore the only Jews in the entire world who suffer discrimination from our national funds. The exclusion of 140,000 of our brethren from Keren Hayesod's funds is in fact, the original rationale for the establishment of the Yeshu Fund.

The Yeshu Fund mooted at the European Likud Congress supports

Jewish settlement; donors are assured that their money will not be used, directly or indirectly, to pay for PLO "police" wages or weapons, or anti-Jewish activities in Jerusalem. This fund is enthusiastically supported by Jewish communities. Without bureaucracy, operating expenses or glossy brochures, the Yeshu Fund attracts hearts and minds, giving people faith in Israel's Zionist destiny.

On the very same day that Mr. Hillel leveled his baseless and misplaced charges at the activities of Likud in Europe, a "Tzedaka Day" was organized in France to assist the Jewish poor in France. The organization in charge of this appeal is the FSJU (the United Jewish Social Fund), which happens to be Keren Hayesod's major partner in France, and whose bureaucracy and social activities gobble a not insubstantial chunk of the money raised in the name of Israel. Now, that is what I call a parallel and rival appeal to Keren Hayesod! What then is Mr. Hillel's real beef? Jewish fund-raising for French Jews in distress, for Jews in Sarajevo, for neglected Jewish communities somewhere in the world - all these are permissible, only the Yeshu pioneers are beyond the pale?

It bears repeating that Likud in Europe and the Yeshu Fund have never called for a boycott of Keren Hayesod, either verbally or in our publications. Our whole appeal is positive. We call upon Jews worldwide to support Yeshu Jews; if they wish to contribute to Keren Hayesod, Israeli universities and hospitals, or even the Tel Aviv Zoo, we have no objection to them.

DR. JACQUES KUPFER, Chairman, Yeshu Fund Europe Jerusalem (Paris).

NEW ALLY

Sir, - In his interview in The Jerusalem Post of December 23, Shimon Peres, speaking of the PLO, is quoted as saying: "We are not going to betray our ally who we signed an agreement with." With the PLO as ally, who needs enemies any more?

TEL AVIV. A. KARNON

PLEA FOR ARAB GOODWILL

Sir, - Rabbi Nachum Rabinovitch's reasoning ("If the Arabs mean peace," December 14) probably appears sound, rational and moderate to him as well as other observers. But he should be informed that sound, rational and moderate is just what the Arab attitude to Jewish rights vis-a-vis the Temple Mount is not. Neither is the official Israeli government policy much better.

For the Arabs, the entire Temple Mount compound is one large mosque. This conveniently defines the non-Moslem as a trespasser as soon as one passes through the gate. Nevertheless, while Christians are afforded minimal tourist privileges, Jews who are identifiable as such for the most part are denied the same. For example, the underground Al-Aksa, of most assuredly and solely Jewish construction and historical importance, is off-limits.

Rabbi Rabinovitch's plea for Arab goodwill must be predicated, as the very least, on an Arab understanding of the claims and needs of the Jewish side, even if in disagreement. Unfortunately, this is lacking. Israel's governments have acquiesced in the matter in tandem with the High Court of Justice's weak-willed decisions regarding Jewish rights on the Temple Mount, which are of no help whatsoever.

Shiloh.

CONTEMPTIBLE ATTACK

Sir, - Chaim Pearl's in-depth analysis of King David's involvement with Bathsheba ("Royal Guilt," December 20) is commendably thorough, but entirely beside the point. Seemingly perplexed by the uproar, he seeks to defend Shimon Peres's remarks on this subject by examining their manifest content. In fact, it was the implication, tone and context of Peres's words which prompted the angry outbursts in the Knesset, bringing this issue far beyond one of biblical interpretation.

DR. SHARON SLATER

Mevasseret Zion.

POSTSCRIPTS

ENOUGH SPERM to populate a city was driven under police escort across Paris.

In a truck specially insulated against vibrations, 300,000 samples of sperm, frozen in liquid nitrogen, were taken four km to a new home.

Blue lights flashing, three police motorcycles accompanied the truck as it crawled along at 20 km an hour. Police ensured that the truck driver, who made four trips, could drive straight through red lights without braking. Several hundred embryos were also moved, according to sperm bank spokesman Jean Bouessy.

The route, from near the Porte d'Italie to Montparnasse, was meticulously studied to avoid sharp bends, cobble stones or other bumps.

A CASH-STRAPPED school district has sold out, selling ad space on everything from gyms to school buses.

School District 11 in El Paso County, Colorado, used the ad revenue to buy books, lab equipment and other supplies the city can't provide.

"Go for your dreams! Stay in

school! - Reilly Buick-GMC Truck" reads an ad inside Palmer High School's gym. Dozens of other signs are plastered on school hallways.

Students at Fremont Elementary School travel in bright yellow buses painted with the round red spots that sell 7-Up. Burger King ads, designed with the help of students, are painted on other buses.

Jay Engeln, Palmer's principal, and a handful of school administrators came up with the idea while plotting ways to raise badly needed funds. "We found that one of the things we do have is exposure," he said. "We thought, 'We can start marketing our schools.'"

The advertising has raised about \$100,000 and the district's share is \$59,000. An ad agency gets the rest.

ARE YOU ready for the politically correct "happily ever after"?

Snow White and her evil step-mother become good friends and earn "worldwide fame for their contributions to sisterhood."

Red Riding Hood, Grandma

and the wolf "set up an alternative household based on mutual respect and cooperation."

The three little pigs slaughter their "cruel wolf oppressor" and establish "a model socialist democracy with free education, universal health care and affordable housing for everyone."

It's certainly a happy ending for James Finn Garner, whose *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories* is a big hit. The humorist's tongue-in-cheek update on the best-loved fairy tales has been on the *New York Times* bestseller list since June. Garner, it should be noted, is no fan of political correctness.

In his version of "Little Red Riding Hood," the wordsman becomes a woodchopper-person, the wolf eats Grandma in an "entirely valid course of action for a carnivore," and Red Riding Hood brings Grandma fat-free, sodium-free snacks.

The poor miller in "Rumpelstiltskin" is now "economically disadvantaged," and Jack of "Jack and the Beanstalk" is a "complete sizeist" who thinks all giants are "clumsy, knowledgeable and exploitable."

THOMAS THE Tank Engine, bastion of male steam engines in British children's television, is to have more forceful women characters in his show.

Up until now, the popular series based on the Reverend Awdry's tales has had just three main women characters - Daisy the green engine and Clarabel and Annie the carriages.

But the Britt Allcroft Company, which makes the series for worldwide syndication, is to redress the balance with a powerful new engine named Mavis. Caroline the Clapped Out Car and a refreshment lady on the trains called Nancy.

Britt Allcroft said: "Ideally I would like to have far more female engines but the problem is they don't feature in Wilbert Awdry's work. However I am specifically using stories that have female characters."

But she was keen not to take political correctness too far. "At the end of the day's adventures the engines go back to their shed for a night's sleep. Are people going to start asking why Thomas, Gordon, Percy and Daisy are sharing a shed?"

Jerusalem 1995

January 1, 1995

A review of commentary and humor from American press syndicates

Frank Beacham

Questioning Technology:

Coping In A High Tech World

Fear of technology. It seems to be an epidemic these days. People feeling that technology is robbing them control of their lives...and their livelihoods. It is quite understandable because in many ways it is true.

The fearful find the task of comprehending the onslaught of new technology virtually overwhelming. At the same time they feel the need to "get with it" or be left behind.

Never before has any society undergone such dramatic technological change in such a short time. In less than 20 years, the computer has fundamentally changed our way of life. Newly emerging global networks are shrinking the world and redistributing wealth. Like it or not, all of us are caught up in a tidal wave of change.

A lot of folks are anxious, confused and feeling out of control of their destiny. It's a topic of conversation these days second only to the weather. I suspect this apprehension has

technology because all the information is coming from its manufacturer. Only with time will the other side be revealed (and there always is an other side).

* Don't be intimidated by high-tech lingo. Get beyond the surface meanings of the buzz words. For example, take the overheated word "information" as it is used in the expression "information technology." In the public context, "information" usually means some form of advertising. To the corporate and government culture, "information" usually means the maintenance of a dossier of personal details (financial, health, buying habits) on individuals.

The forces driving the "information age" have little interest beyond selling you something or maintaining electronic records on your life. Next time you hear the old cliché that the future belongs to those who master information

Never before has any society undergone such dramatic technological change in such a short time. In less than 20 years, the computer has fundamentally changed our way of life.

far more to do with the results of the last election than any love of Newt Gingrich.

Despite what the pro-corporate politicians of both parties say, a big chunk of the middle class intuitively knows now that the concepts of economic globalization and downsizing in the workplace have a lot to do with technology putting human beings out of traditional work. As the rapid pace of change continues, they wonder how long their own jobs will remain secure.

Welcome to the downside of the digital revolution. The part Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore never told us about. The part that the middle class had better soon understand and deal with if they want to maintain even a semblance of their current quality of life in the coming years.

Since the government has offered no "Middle Class Bill of Rights" for technological change, it will be up to individuals to arm themselves with the knowledge and survival skills to navigate the tricky economic landscape of the high-tech future. The good news is this task requires no computer skills whatsoever. Only a little common sense and the guts to take a chance.

Here, in a nutshell, are some things everyone needs to know about technology:

* All new technology cuts two ways. For everyone who benefits from implementation of a new technology, someone else loses. Technology is never neutral. Ask yourself some hard questions. Who most benefits from the invention of this new technology? Who or what will be displaced or harmed by the technology? How will it affect our culture? For all the stated benefits, what price — not just in terms of money — are we actually paying for the technology?

* Embrace good technology. If a technology survives rigorous analysis as worthwhile, don't avoid it. Think of it in terms of a new tool that might assist you with your work or means of livelihood. Resist its sexy allure, take your time and evaluate it with skepticism. Remember, all you will hear at first are the positive attributes of any new

technology, consider what the phrase really means.

* Information is not knowledge, nor does information even lead to sound thinking. This may sound like common sense but the "data merchants" are hard at work trying to convince us otherwise. Theodore Roszak's new edition of *The Cult of Information* (University of California Press, Berkeley) is one of the best books on this subject. Roszak reminds us that voluminous information can obscure basic questions and may even hinder rather than enhance productivity. It is important to maintain clear thinking on this subject throughout a blizzard of propaganda that suggests "information" is all we really need.

* Trust your own judgment. Be wary of the engineering elite. That friend who "works in the computer industry" may have a very warped perspective on the future. One does not have to be an engineer or computer nerd to assess how technology might be best applied to a given job. Common sense is a far more valuable commodity.

At a recent symposium on interactive digital technology at the Media Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the celebrated composer/producer Quincy Jones reminded the technically savvy audience that nobody really knows the future of digital technology. "I've met most of the players and they are all as healthily confused as they should be," Jones said. "This is a revolutionary time."

Jones — whose talent is music, not engineering — knows what the most successful people know. That the era of new technology has brought with it a newly level playing field and anyone with a good idea can come out on top.

Much of the fear of technology is fueled by the false notion that only those with technical skills can be the winners. The winners, I suspect, will be the non-techies who are clear-headed and confident enough to successfully "apply" new technology to benefit the work they already do.

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FEIFFER*

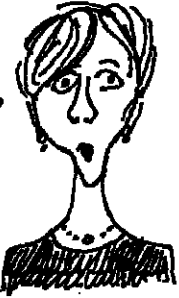
THIS CHRISTMAS, WE GIVE CHILDREN'S BOOKS.



FOR JONATHAN: A BOOK ABOUT HOW THE BIRDS JOIN FORCES TO SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT.



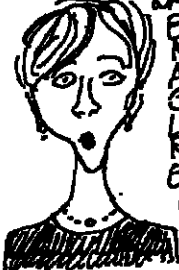
FOR ASHLEY: A BOOK ABOUT A LEBANESE GIRL WHO COMES TO LIVE WITH A JEWISH FAMILY IN BROOKLYN.



FOR MATTHEW: A BOOK ABOUT A BOY WITH GAY PARENTS WHO OFFENDS A HOMOPHOBIC CLASSMATE.



FOR STEPHANIE: A BOOK ABOUT A NATIVE-AMERICAN BOY AND A MEXICAN-AMERICAN GIRL WHO LEARN TO RESPECT EACH OTHER'S WAYS.



FOR KEVIN: A BOOK ABOUT A BROWN COY, A BLACK CAT, A YELLOW DOG AND A WHITE MOUSE WHO SAVE THE FAMILY FARM FROM A FLOOD.



THE DAY AFTER VACATION, THE CHILDREN WENT BACK TO SCHOOL.



AND STARTED A MULTI-ETHNIC RIOT.



Charles Lane

Hallowed Ground

"Do not dig or trespass, under penalty of law," warns the sign planted in a grassy field just outside Sachsenhausen, the former Nazi concentration camp here. But the warning is unnecessary. Those few visitors who come here do so out of respect. All you can hear is the wind in the trees, or the whoosh of a passing car. This quiet *Denkmalschutzgebiet* — protected monument zone — has a gloomy pull on me, not only for its stillness, but also for the moral ironies it presents. Thousands who died at Sachsenhausen are buried under this site, but those victims are Germans.

When the Wehrmacht crumbled, the Soviet army took over Sachsenhausen, Buchenwald and other Nazi camps in what was to be East Germany. From 1945 to 1950 Stalin's NKVD used them for local Nazi Party officials and Wehrmacht soldiers. The Soviets also imprisoned political dissidents and thousands of teenagers whom they had

in the Soviet-run compound or the emotions of its survivors. Indeed, a fine new T.V. film by East German director Joanne Geick, *Sechs Weihnachten* (Six Christmas), tells of thirty-eight German high school boys interned by the Soviets at Sachsenhausen, fourteen of whom died there. Geick's interviews with weeping, middle-aged survivors, intercut with windswept footage of the Brandenburg plains, evoke Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah*.

But history does not support the simile. At Sachsenhausen, the Nazi and Soviet ways of death were distinguishable. The vast majority of the 100,000 who died at Hitler's camp were deliberately murdered or worked to death. Those who died at Stalin's camp died of hunger and disease. Though many post-1945 inmates were innocent, many others were willing henchmen of Hitler. Located near Berlin, Sachsenhausen was an administrative

ideology of master races, anti-Semitism and racial hate.

Faced with the protests of Jewish groups and survivors of the Nazi camp, Brandenburg state formed a commission of historians, which, in 1992, concluded that the Nazi camp was worse than the NKVD camp and should therefore be emphasized in the new exhibitions. Though this did not go far enough for some survivors of the Nazi camp, the questions of moral equivalence surrounding Sachsenhausen are now under the conscientious care of Morsch, a young historian. He plans to make Sachsenhausen a kind of participatory museum, where visitors follow the path prisoners once took from the gates to the barracks — or to the execution ground where the Nazis' Soviet prisoners were shot, or to a "medical" experimentation cellar where eleven Jewish children were tortured to death. Exhibits on the postwar Soviet camp will be

"...organizations representing German ex-prisoners of the Soviets have demanded recognition equal to that of Nazi camp victims. They insist that Germans imprisoned at Sachsenhausen were mostly innocent and suffered an even higher death rate, per capita, than those at Hitler's camps."

understated and proportionate — the *Denkmalschutzgebiet* outside the walls, plus a small display in one barracks. So far, Morsch has been able to mount a few provisional exhibits, including one about Sachsenhausen's Jews. But since federal funding for Sachsenhausen depends on how much the state government antes up, and since Brandenburg is poor, Morsch is short of funds. He estimates the cost of rehabilitating Sachsenhausen at \$15 million to \$20 million; yet all three former camps in Brandenburg have a combined annual budget of only \$5 million. (The government spent \$73 million on the upbeat new museum of postwar German history in Bonn, a pet project of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.) I ended my tour admiring the determination of Morsch and his colleagues to resist the relativization of their country's multiple totalitarian pasts. When Brandenburg police occupied yellow barracks that used to belong to the S.S., Morsch even obliged them not to hold prisoners there. Still, his work may never really be done. Barracks 38 at Sachsenhausen, where the Nazis held Jews, is a charred ruin, destroyed in a molotov cocktail attack two years ago. To date, no one has been convicted of the crime. Morsch says he wants to rebuild Barracks 38 as a memorial exhibit about the Jewish prisoners this year, when funds become available.

and training center for all Nazi camps. Rudolf Höess trained here to command Auschwitz. The "camp" was virtually a city. Oranienburg teemed with S.S. black shirts; townspeople jeered prisoners as they were marched down the streets. "Not a pencil went to a concentration camp without being ordered here," explains Dr. Gunther Morsch, the curator of the site. "Not a can of Zyklon B was shipped that was not ordered here."

The East German regime obscured these truths, just as it suppressed the truth about the Soviets' use of the camp. When the Communist state finally dedicated Sachsenhausen as a monument in 1961, it was to glorify the working class, not to plumb the meaning of the Nazi barbarism in which so many German workers had taken part. Exhibits, some still in place today, emphasized cruelties against Communist prisoners and Soviet POWs, and downplayed the fate of what a guide pamphlet from East German times called "stateless Jews" (10,000 of whom died in the camp). Big Communist rallies were held at Sachsenhausen; East German schoolchildren and foreign visitors to Berlin were paraded through

all to show that, as the guide leaflet put it, "we in the German Democratic Republic have conquered the Nazi

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PERSPECTIVE WEEKLY

Editor
Guy Bernfeld

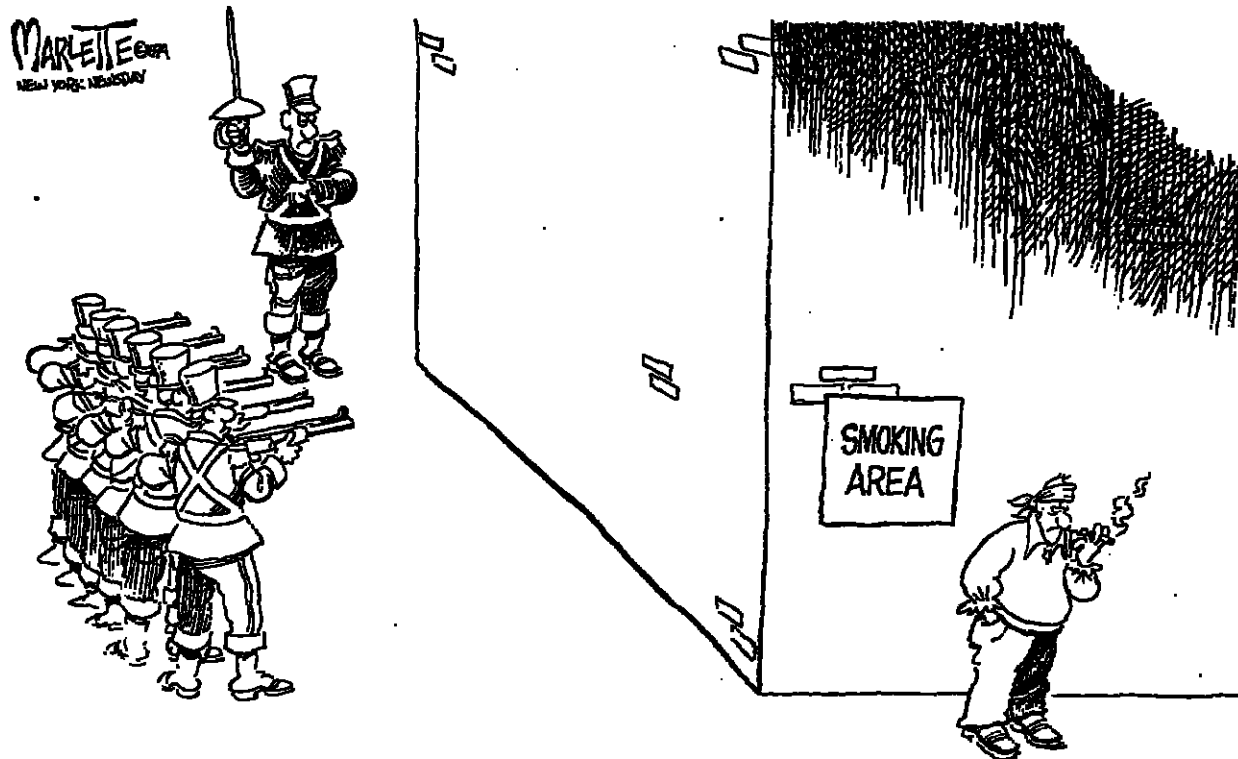


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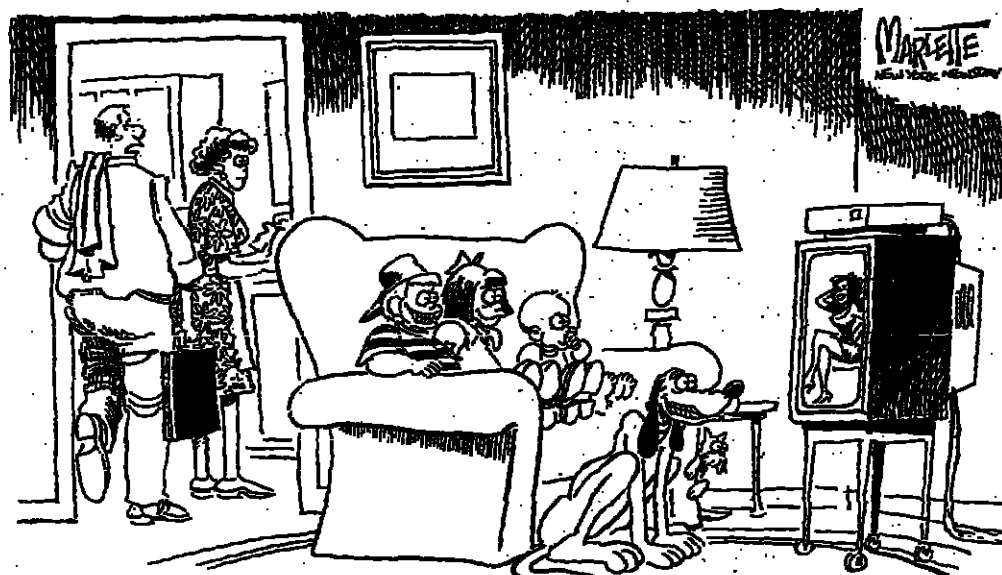
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EDITORIAL
CARTOONS

"I'M NOT BLAMING VIOLENCE ON TELEVISION, BUT I THINK HE'S STICKING US UP WITH A TV REMOTE!"



Alan Dershowitz

Why Heidi Fleiss Shouldn't
Go To Jail

"RELAX--THEY SAID THEY'RE WATCHING 'HEIDI'!"

The very idea that in 1995 a woman could be sentenced to three years in prison for arranging sex for pay between — or even among — consenting adults is preposterous. But unless Heidi Fleiss' pandering conviction is reversed, she faces a mandatory three-year prison term. The 12 people who were most surprised by this turn of event were the jurors who convicted Fleiss after reaching a classic compromise verdict, acquitting her of drug charges because she was entrapped, but convicting her of what they believed was a slap-on-the-wrist offense akin to sexual jay-walking. They had no idea — because the law deliberately keeps sentencing information from jurors — that their compromise verdict would result in hard prison time for the so-called "Hollywood Madam."

The jurors' belief that the pandering conviction would result in a fine is not surprising since, as one comic put it, "arresting people for prostitution in Los Angeles is like giving out speeding tickets at the Indianapolis 500." Sex for sale — ranging from the streetwalkers of Hollywood Boulevard, to pornographic film actors, to the infamous "casting couch" — is a way of life in Hollywood.

There are, to be sure, legitimate societal concerns with prostitution. Among them are the exploitation of women by their pimps, the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, the unseemliness of streetwalkers bothering pedestrians and the robbery sometimes associated with prostitution. But none of these evils were present in the Heidi Fleiss case, which involved entirely consensual safe sex requested by the customers. Yet a prison cell, which could better be used to incarcerate a 21-year-old, knife-wielding, violent recidivist, will now be taken up for three years by a businesswoman who chose as her profession a variant of the oldest and most widespread in history. Nor will imprisoning Ms. Fleiss deter the proliferation of prostitution in Hollywood or elsewhere.

The time has come to decriminalize and regulate victimless sex for pay. The excellent reasons which have always existed for bringing prostitution under state control have become even more compelling in this age of sexually transmitted death. In those countries in which prostitution is regulated, there is less sexually transmitted disease, less exploitation and fewer other evils associated with a profession that will always be needed to satisfy the sexual urges of people who cannot achieve sexual satisfaction in the traditional manner. (The "traditional" manner has, of course, always included prostitution.)

There is also a bonus in decriminalization for those Americans who care about tax revenues. Countless untaxed dollars are earned every year by the underground trade in sex. Regulating prostitution would add hundreds of millions of dollars to our state and federal coffers. It would also reduce police corruption, which has always run rampant among vice squads and "morals" police.

It is simply none of the state's business to tell consenting adults how, with whom and for how much they may satisfy their sexual needs. This is one issue on which thoughtful conservatives, liberals, moderates, feminists and civil libertarians should agree. Keeping the state out of the most intimate aspects of its adult citizens' sex lives and leaving the price of sex to the marketplace should be a tenet of conservatism. But because American conservatism has become allied with religious fundamentalism, there is little hope that the Gingriches of the world will pick a battle with the Robertsons, Falwells and Helmses.

Nor will political liberals or moderates — who cannot even countenance open discussions of masturbation — be willing to take the lead on a sensible approach to prostitution. All politicians today run scared of the religious right and few would risk being labeled soft on vice. Likewise, some radical feminists seem more intent on punishing the male johns than decriminalizing the work of female prostitutes, who today bear the heaviest burden of criminalization. The likely result is a continuation of our current policy, under which prostitution thrives in every city in America; disease and exploitation run rampant; police enforcement is widely corrupt; and we continue to thump our collective breasts proudly at our selective enforcement of the anachronistic and puritanical sexual laws.

In the meantime, Heidi Fleiss faces long imprisonment because California — a state of extremes when it comes to punishment — has shifted from a policy of indeterminate sentencing to one of mandatory minimums. The Fleiss case illustrates the absurdity of rigid adherence to mandatory minimums without regard to the specific facts of the case.

There is some hope, however, for Ms. Fleiss, since several of the jurors apparently discussed the case outside of the jury room, which is improper under California law. A motion for a new trial is being filed, and if it is denied, an appeal is certain to follow. This entire prosecution is a monumental waste of resources, which would be better devoted to punishing predatory crime involving real victims.

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Robert Wright

Dumb Bell

Are liberals ever going to feel silly when they hear about this? It turns out that discrediting Charles Murray doesn't require anywhere near all the huffing and puffing that consumed so much of our time this autumn. All you have to do is give Murray a pop quiz on his own book, *The Bell Curve*, and he takes care of the rest. The inventor of this technique is The New Republic's Mike Kinsley. A few weeks ago, on his CNN interview show "Heads Up," Kinsley asked Murray a simple question and got an amazing answer.

No doubt you've by now heard of "heritability." Via all known mass media, Murray has said that the heritability of I.Q. is roughly .6. What does that mean? Correct answer: that 60 percent of the difference in I.Q. scores among individuals in the population under study is due to genetic differences among those individuals. Thus if Bill (I.Q. 110) and Joe (I.Q. 120) are a typical pair, then six points of their ten-point I.Q. gap is due to Bill's genetic disadvantage and four points to his environmental disadvantage.

Okay, let's go to the videotape. Kinsley began by trying to dispel a common misinterpretation of heritability: that 60 percent of an individual's I.Q. is "determined" by the genes. He used this analogy: If you compare houses and find that most of the difference in their height is attributable to the differing shapes of their roofs, that doesn't mean that most of a given house's height is due to its roof, does it?

Apparently so, Murray answered: "When I — when we — say 60 percent heritability, it's not 60 percent of the variation. It is 60 percent of the I.Q. in any given person." Could someone please direct Murray's attention to page 106 of the book he says he co-authored? "Heritability... measures the relative contribution of genes to the variation observed in a trait.... It makes no more sense to talk about the heritability of an individual's I.Q. than it does to talk about his birthrate." Presumably that passage was written by the late Richard Herrnstein, Murray's co-author. (Quasi-technical footnote: Murray is wrong not merely in stating that 60 percent of a person's I.Q. is genetic. He's wrong to think such a statement has any meaning. Trying to assign relative weights to genes and environment for a

given trait in a given individual is like trying to say whether the wind or rain was more responsible for a particular hurricane. Both are essential, and that's all you can say. No sophisticated biologist would ever talk, as Murray does, of a particular person's trait — whether I.Q. or anything else — as being "X percent," or even "mostly," determined by either genes or environment.)

It's hard to believe Murray could be so confused about a topic so crucial to his book. But by the end of "Heads Up" he had left little doubt. He not only repeated that, for the average person, "60 percent of the intelligence comes from heredity," he said this number applies to the "human species." Wrong again.

Heritability estimates can't be extended beyond the population studied. Even if we assume that two societies have the same genetic composition, heritability may differ. The society with less variation in environmental circumstance will typically have higher heritability; its range of variation in (for example) I.Q. will be narrower, and the fraction of the variation accounted for by genetic variation will thus be higher. "Heritability" changes from place to place and time to time.

This point, too, is made in *The Bell Curve*, presumably by Herrnstein — who, after all, was a psychologist; Murray is a political scientist. It's tempting to conclude that Murray, seeking a vehicle for his right-wing

baggage, hopped aboard Herrnstein's train without carefully inspecting it (then spent his book tour making whistle-stop speeches about the impregnable scientific research "Dick Herrnstein and I" dispassionately assembled.)

Still, as appealing as I find the image of Murray parasitizing Herrnstein's brain, there's more to the story than that. Though Murray's solo remarks about heritability are cruder than the book's, the book is in some ways crude enough. After correctly noting that heritability estimates are peculiar to a given social environment, it goes on to discuss "the limits that heritability puts on the ability to manipulate intelligence." Specifically, the book says that, since heritability is .6, most of the variation in I.Q. would

persist even if we realized the dream of perfectly equal developmental environments. So much for liberal millennialism!

This is misleading at best. In a normal environment, the heritability of phenylketonuria, a disease that produces mental retardation, is 1. If you have the gene for it, you get it — otherwise you don't. By *The Bell Curve*'s logic, this means that nothing can be done about the problem; environment plays no role in the trait's variation, so equalizing environments will have no effect. Right? Wrong. It turns out that if you put all infants on a diet low in the amino acid phenylalanine, the disease disappears.

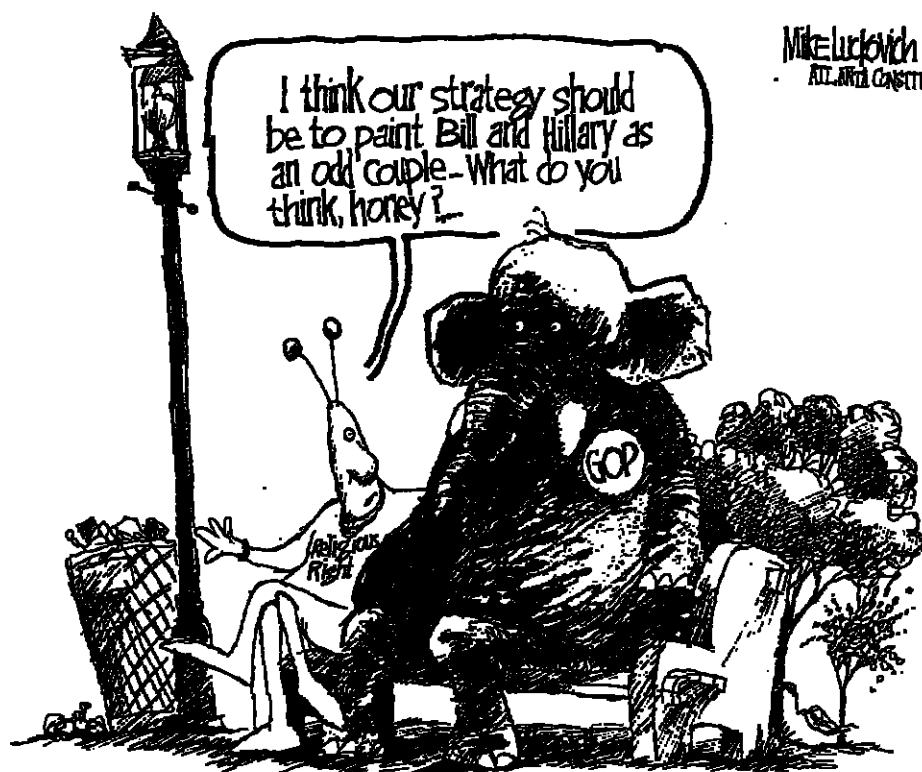
Admittedly, phenylketonuria, the textbook example of the fallacy committed by Herrnstein and Murray, is too easy — a piece of cake compared with the depressingly stubborn social problems their book addresses. But the principle is general: do not be blinded by your environment, or by a brief and unsuccessful history of intervention, to the many interventions that remain untried. "Heritability" estimates apply only to the environment under study, and say nothing at all about how much, or how easily, a trait can be altered. (And, by the way, owing to inherent methodological problems, heritability estimates also say nothing at all about whether an I.Q. gap between ethnic groups is in any part genetic — a fact that, happily, is acknowledged in *The Bell Curve*.)

Upper-middle-class parents of preschoolers lately have been swapping anecdotes about how CD-ROM software can help a child's reading and math skills. It is possible that even now technology is creating a new environment for early education, in which the I.Q./heritability picture will look appreciably different. We simply don't know. But we do know that people like Murray, who talk mindlessly about most of a person's intelligence being "determined by genes," influence the chances of taxpayers' ever buying such software for the inner city or Appalachia. We also know that, coincidentally, this is the same kind of influence Murray was having on policy years ago, even before he began his arduous research program in genetics.

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James Ridgeway

Not A Prayer



WASHINGTON, D.C.—As the holiday season comes to a close, and America's wallets and checkbooks take a well-earned rest, this country's poor will once again have hoped to benefit from the scrapings of this traditional period of charity and goodwill.

And if the new Republican congressional majority gets its way, Christian charity may be all they have to depend upon. For the sweeping reforms promised by the Republicans will not only dismantle America's social welfare system, they will ensure that religious organizations, not the welfare state, become responsible for the way society cares for its poor.

The conservative Republicans are determined to narrow the scope of government by slashing departmental budgets, and in cases such as the departments of Education, Energy, and HUD, doing away with them altogether. That would effectively signal the demise of the New Deal social safety net, and by privatizing many social services, and making individual states responsible for many others, the federal government would be removed from the welfare process.

In all probability this new era will see the churches playing an ever growing role in providing social services, because an essential part of the conservative reforms bear on how the church and state work together to reshape morality through social funding. The effect of conservative government and increased privatization will increasingly link recipients of social welfare programs to their moral behavior. Not only will the churches be the funnel for private and public charity, but as major partners in the conservative majority, they will be architects of the standards by which the new safety net is administered.

Already there is discussion of the "deserving" and "undeserving" poor. The deserving poor are those who, through no fault of their own, have fallen on hard times. They are primarily nuclear families where both parents work and still scrape to get by, or those people who have fallen ill, or encountered some disaster. Both Clintonites and conservatives have already agreed the working poor should receive tax breaks and vouchers, hence ensuring they all continue to work at or below the minimum wage. Among the undeserving

poor are young unmarried mothers (and their babies) who have been singled out for exclusion in welfare reform, alcoholics, drug abusers, various categories of the mentally ill, and HIV sufferers.

In this new conservative world, the churches sit at the right hand of the corporations as guardians of the free market. Since the 1960s there has been a growing alliance between the Republican Party and evangelical Protestants, whose numbers, according to *One Nation Under God—Religion in Contemporary American Society*, by Barry A. Kosmin and Seymour P. Lachman, run anywhere from 30 million to 50 million, and whose members are mostly white.

Within the category of evangelical Christians are the fundamentalists, who make up the right wing of the movement and perhaps account for one-third of their total number. Politically, they often support school prayer, school choice, traditional family values. Many are opposed to abortion and join with Catholics on this issue, although on theological grounds they, of course, are at odds with the Catholic Church.

Evangelical Protestants now compose more than 20 percent of America's population. They include most Baptists, many Methodists, as well as Disciples of Christ, Presbyterians, Lutherans, and members of independent local evangelical churches. According to *One Nation*, they tend to be "more rural, more southern, less affluent and less well educated" than the rest of the population.

Nearly one-fifth of all evangelicals are black. And while most people would never think of black evangelicals as fundamentalists, a sizable number of black evangelical churches are close both in doctrine and theology to white fundamentalist Protestants. Most black evangelicals, however, vote Democratic.

During the Reagan era, fundamentalism played upon and was employed to make sense of scary times. The coming confrontation with the Soviet Union was portrayed as the opening shot in the final war of Armageddon, and the sense that this confrontation would fulfill biblical destiny infused the arguments in Congress over increased defense spending.

Looking back on this period, it seems scarcely imaginable that there were breakfast prayer meetings in the White House with members of the senior White House staff talking in tongues and engaging in the laying on of hands. There was then — and probably still is — a secret group of military officers who thought of themselves not as American soldiers, but as members of God's army. Today, the fight against evil continues, no more so than with the fundamentalists' holy war against abortion, seen as part of the great fundamentalist battle. Just as pipe bombs being stuck in abortion clinics were seen

as gifts to the baby Jesus back in the 1980s, the recent murder of a Florida abortion doctor and his escort by Paul Hill has been openly embraced as an act of God's will.

From the beginning of Reagan's presidency, there was a new emphasis on private charity as a substitute for the safety net of the hated welfare state. Before Reagan, the government dispensed surplus foods directly to the poor, but beginning in 1980, the rapid increase in the numbers of the homeless gave rise to a new cottage industry — serving the homeless, providing them food from industry, and operating as charities.

The future holds more of the same. For with the safety net shredded, the churches will find a greater opportunity to act as the purveyors of social welfare.

The primary struggle over the future of welfare, the shape of the new poorhouse, will occur in early January in Congress. As the safety net is ripped up that question will become more and more a province of our new moral guardians, the church-affiliated organizations of the Christian right.

And so the debate that counts will be within the religious community, and in particular the Christian evangelicals. Here, an evangelical group called the Sojourners is challenging the normally accepted views of Christian politics. Led by Jim Wallis, the Sojourners is a small community that spans various denominations, and bases its ministry in the streets of Northwest Washington, D.C., along an inner city corridor destroyed long ago by riots and never really rebuilt. There they have set up a community center where the group runs adult literacy programs, a food bank that feeds 500 people a week, and various youth programs. Sojourners is best known for its monthly magazine of the same name, edited by Wallis and that has a circulation of 30,000.

Not that the Sojourners will be troubling the evangelical big boys quite yet. Despite being in existence for 23 years, Sojourners remains a minor organization compared to the lavishly financed outfits of the right. Yet over the years, Sojourners have hung on, enlisting, through the 1980s, tens of thousands of religious people in a pledge against Reagan's war policies in Central America and most recently plunging into gang politics at the 1993 Gang Summit.

Wallis himself is about as modest a person as you could ever expect to meet. No firebrand like Jimmy Swaggart, or blowhard like Pat Robertson, his sometimes down-to-earth presence cuts against smart-ass Washington. And while Sojourners may struggle to keep afloat, Wallis's influence and his presence continue to grow.

Jim Wallis is the major prophetic evangelical Christian voice in the country, writes Cornel West in the preface to Wallis's

new book *The Soul of Politics*. "He refuses to allow the religious right to have a monopoly on morality and spirituality...."

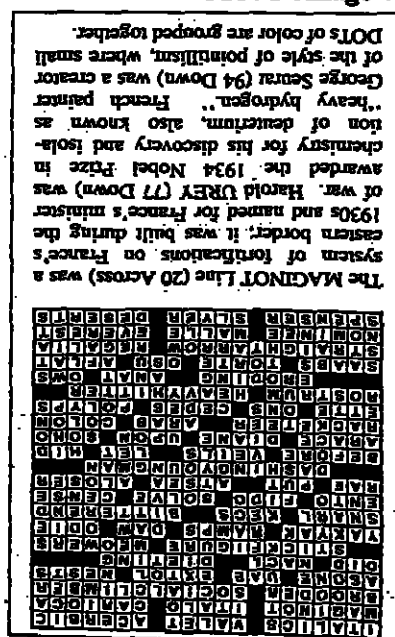
The Sojourners are often aligned with World Vision, the evangelical organization launched by Billy Graham, another man who has carefully eschewed the programs of the fundamentalist right. Graham chose Sojourners as a forum for his first denunciation in the U.S. of the nuclear arms race.

Graham has actively encouraged the work of Wallis, and praises his teaching on the "social implications of the gospel." Currently Wallis is meeting with leaders of the evangelical, mainstream Protestant and Catholic churches in an effort to set up an alternative to the religious right. Which also helps Graham, whose own ministry has been hurt by the rise of the religious right.

"Jesus is not a blue-eyed right-winger," writes Wallis in *The Soul of Politics*. "Jesus is the one who entered the world among the dispossessed and the outcasts to announce an entirely new way of thinking and living. The way of Jesus and the prophets isn't just a welfare program; it calls for a change of heart, a revolution of the spirit, a transformation of our consciousness. It moves us beyond the familiar options of abandoning the poor, controlling the poor, or even 'helping' the poor from places of isolation and comfort. Instead, it leads us to a new relationship with one another, a deep reconnection, a restoration of the shattered covenant."

Yet despite the support that the Sojourners can command, it's hard to believe that Wallis and his organization can make much progress within the Christian religious community in this present climate. Especially such a conservative community, which is far more likely to respond to the opportunism of the moment, and which can now advance its own interests in the name of morality.

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He took Israel's health matters into his hands

THEN AND THERE
SRAYA SHAPIRO

PINHAS Dagan-Weitz took ideology very seriously in those turbulent pre-World War II days in Eastern Europe.

He joined the Zionist-socialist Hashomer Hatza'ir youth movement in his native Cracow, and stuck to its tenets all his life.

"My instructor in the movement was a young lawyer named Yohanan Bader. Eventually, he left Hashomer Hatza'ir to join Menachem Begin's Revisionist Party. Such a course never occurred to me. Socialism was close to my heart."

He sailed to Palestine in the summer of 1939 — "probably on the last legal ship to reach Haifa" — and joined a group of would-be kibbutzniks in Hadera. Hard days in the citrus groves were followed by evening work on the local labor council.

Attending to public affairs was a mission, a duty one did not feel permitted to refuse, even if one was not naturally inclined to do such work.

Eventually Dagan-Weitz became responsible for Hashomer Hatza'ir activities among moshavot workers, winning a place in the Hashomer Hatza'ir secretariat, with Meir Ya'ari, Ya'acov Hazan, Kuba (Ya'acov) Riffin and Yisrael Barzilai. When he was not on a political mission, Dagan-Weitz baked bricks at the Na'aman ceramics plant near Haifa.

Tremendous changes were taking place in 1948: the War of Independence, the establishment of the state, and the distribution of political spoils. Within the chunk allotted to Mapam, Barzilai was made Israel's first ambassador to Poland. He took Dagan-Weitz with him as an adviser.

"It was on that occasion that Sharet gave me the name Dagan. Several other newly baked diplomats were assembled at Sharet's home, hosted by Tzipora, Sharet's wife. An Englishman called Aubrey Eban was then renamed Abba Eban."

Israel's intentions in Poland were clear, he says: To arrange exit for every Jew who wanted to come. Within roughly two years some 33,000 Jews left for Israel. "They traveled in sealed trains to the Austrian border, supplied with passports

valid for Israel alone. In Venice or Bari, a ship lay waiting for the emigrants."

Dagan-Weitz admits to being impressed by the Polish government. His Polish contacts were "charming." True, he says, the regime was dictatorial, complete with Polish-style NKVD and concentration camps, though there was no mass execution on the Soviet model. Israeli left-wingers, he says, found that their aims coincided with a latent Polish wish to see the Jews leave.

Things changed abruptly when Israel openly declared its support for the American-sponsored intervention in Korea. The Poles refused to issue more exit documents. Dagan-Weitz voices their attitude: "You will send our doctors to help the Americans? Never!"

Ben-Gurion's policy on Korea upset those affiliated with Mapam, which wanted Israel to remain neutral in word and deed. All the staff at the Polish Embassy tendered their resignation to the minister of foreign affairs. "Anyway, practically all the Jews who wanted out were by then already in Israel. Only those who considered themselves non-Jews remained."

Back home at Kibbutz Hama's apil, near Hadera, the temporary diplomat returned to familiar chores: mowing tractors in the fields, digging in citrus groves, and tending to the chicken coop.

Four years later, Mapam was again in a coalition with Mapai. Barzilai was appointed minister of health, and he called on his former assistant to serve as deputy director-general of the ministry.

The health fund run by the Histadrut was then much better equipped to deal with public health than the government, which inherited the facilities of the Mandate. Kupat Holim expected to preserve its dominance. But Dr. Haim Sheba, director-general of the ministry, and many other prominent physicians argued public health was a state responsibility, that the Histadrut should bow out.

"Barzilai wanted coordination, a compromise — not a fight," says Dagan-Weitz. "We called on Dr. Sheba



and on Moshe Soroka [head of Kupat Holim], personal visits to their homes, and we managed to outline a modus vivendi between the two. In its broad lines, the pact was adhered to until recently."

The crux of the matter, however, is that the Health Ministry, in order to keep its business (the hospitals) going, had to submit to the demands of its employees — doctors, nurses, and administrative staff. To recoup the loss, the ministry boosted hospital

charges by 30 percent. "For Kupat Holim it spelled disaster," says Dagan-Weitz, who meanwhile had switched to Kupat Holim circles. The health fund runs only a few hospitals, as its health-care system is based on outpatient clinics, and so patients in need of hospitalization must go to government institutions.

This practice and salary increases added nearly NIS 1 billion to Kupat Holim's 1994 budget, though

in 1993 its budget almost balanced.

Now 81, Dagan-Weitz left government employ in 1973, after serving for a while as director-general of the Ministry of Absorption. But Kupat Holim didn't let him retire. At present he is the contact man between the health fund and the state comptroller.

"As the shikse in the rebbe's household, I am considered an authority in the health halacha," Dagan-Weitz says with a smile.

Intelligence in dogs is not the same as trainability

HEADS 'N' TAILS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

ARE some dogs naturally more intelligent than others? And if so, is it genetic? This is a question that many people ask and it's not easy to answer.

Intelligence, insofar as we can measure it in animals, is difficult to determine. Often, when we refer to intelligence in an animal we mean trainability; but while these two characteristics do in some cases parallel each other, they are by no means the same.

For instance, a dog left to fend for itself might prove to be quite adept at working out the mechanisms needed for its own survival. It would be very good at avoiding dangerous situations and an absolute genius at finding and utilizing sources of food, water and shelter. Yet this same dog, in a domestic situation, might be almost impossible to train. It might run away rather than come when called; it might be absolutely impossible to teach to stay out of forbidden places or to refrain from stealing food.

We then might say it's a really stupid dog and cannot learn anything. But in fact it is not intelligence that is lacking here, but that factor of trainability that we prize so highly.

Because most purebreds have been rigidly selected for specific characteristics, such as hunting instinct, herding instinct or guarding instinct, we often confuse intelligence with the tendency of the dog to behave in certain inbred patterns. If we fail to teach a herder to hunt, its lack of interest does not reflect on its intelligence; the same applies to failing to get a hunting dog to guard property.

What we call intelligence is genetically transmitted; but again, there are different types of animal intelligence. A champion border collie that can learn all the secrets of keeping order in a herd of several hundred sheep seems a moron if you want it to do the job of a Labrador retriever. This is why many people maintain that mixed-breed dogs are "smarter" than purebreds.

The chances are that the dog, due to its hybrid condition, has inherited a wider range of behavioral patterns and in some cases this makes it more adaptable to training for different duties.

This doesn't mean, however, that there aren't different degrees of intelligence between individuals of the same breed. Just as there are different levels of intelligence in humans, so there are differences among animals.

There are just as many factors at play here as there are in humans. There's genetic makeup, early nurture, and just as humans may produce accidental defects due to a variety of causes, so may animals.

It would be a true miracle if these creatures that live so close to us should be unaffected by the things that are problematic to us all, including prenatal exposure to chemicals, improper nutrition or anything else that may harm the developing fetus or young animal.

Leaping from the kittenish frying pan to the fiery wife

WE all have our little weaknesses. Some people drink, some gamble, some chase skirts, some pants.

My wife is fond of kittens. Not the pampered kind that wants to be stroked all day and goes "prrr" like an electric razor in love. No, she goes in for week-old strays mewling pitifully on street corners.

When the little woman catches sight of a poor little waif like that, her heart melts, tears shine in her eyes like diamonds, she takes the orphan home and cares for it with endless devotion till it grows up to be an eight-day-old cat, that is, to say next morning, when she gets bored with it and tells her husband: "Why do I always have to do everything myself? That's the way it happened with pussy."

This particular bit of fluff got itself picked up one morning on the corner of Herzl and Bialik. Black and very thin it was, and playing merrily with its tail till it saw my wife, when it promptly lay down, and started mewling pitifully and played orphan.

Next the melts, the diamonds, the lot. Pussy was carried home tenderly and offered a saucer of milk — which she refused to touch. She looked, she sniffed, but touch it she wouldn't.

The little woman was awfully worried: She hadn't picked Pussy out of the gutter to have her starve to death in our kitchen, had she? Something had to be done fast.

We racked our brains and then, on the verge of despair, hit on the brilliant idea that of course, Pussy was too young to eat, she had to be fed from a baby-bottle.

That was easy, because we just then happened to have a baby in the house too — our second son, Amir — and had it followed that

we had at least a dozen bottles in the fridge, all sterilized and ready for use.

"Are you crazy?" said the woman. "Feed a filthy cat from Amir's bottle? You go to the pharmacy and buy another bottle for Pussy." "Not me," I said, "I'll look like a bloody fool."

I would too. I mean a grown man, very respectable-looking and that, coming into a pharmacy and saying, "May I have a baby-bottle for a cat?" I'd sound like a freak or something.

On my way to the pharmacy I therefore resolved to hush up the bottle's true purpose, and just casually told our friendly neighborhood pharmacist: "One baby-bottle, please." "How's Amir then?" she asked. "Thanks. Weighs over 7 kg. already." "Fancy that! Well, and what sort of bottle shall it be?" "The cheapest..."

An ominous silence fell on the pharmacy. The other customers drew away from me in disgust. "Tsk-tsk," said their glances. "A well-dressed fellow like that, wears glasses, drives a big car, and for his little baby he buys the cheapest bottle. Bah!"

The kindly smile on the pharmacist's face vanished as well. "Suit yourself," she said. "Though these cheap bottles burst in no time." "Never mind," I muttered, "I'll glue it."

The pharmacist shrugged and produced a large array of bottles, ranging from burst-proof, made-in-Britain miracles, to a miserable brownish affair that would make any decent infant puke.

"That one," I said with downcast eyes, "The brown." At this point a fat lady standing next to me intervened. "Look, mister," she said, "I know it's none of my business, but still. Your baby is the most precious thing you have,

right? So what I say is: save on anything else, if you must, but always buy the best for your child. I am speaking as a mother, sir!"

She was fat and I didn't like her. I asked about prices. The super-bottles cost anywhere between six and 20 shekels, the brown wretch was only three shekels.

"He breaks them all anyway," I whispered. "It'd be a waste of money to buy the expensive sort."

"Why should he break them?" the pharmacist said, "If you hold him like this, see, with his head in the crook of your left arm, there's no way for him to break anything." I could just picture a bed-draped Pussy reclining against my left arm. What the hell.

"He's sort of a restless, our baby," I explained. "He kicks. So may I have the brown, please?"

"I guess you don't feed him right, then," said the fat mother. "Have you got a nurse for him?" "No... I mean..."

"I'll send you one," she said. "A restless baby needs profes-

KISHON'S KEYHOLE
EPHRAIM KISHON

sional care. Wait, I'll give her a call right now and see if she's free."

There were less than three meters between me and the door, and if it hadn't been for those two big fellows standing there like so many rocks of Gibraltar, I'd have made a dash for it. Let Pussy hunt mice, dammit.

"You sure ought to be grateful to the lady," the pharmacist told me. "She's got four of her own, and they're the nicest, quietest babies you've ever seen. She'll get you a first-class nurse and your little Amir will soon be cured of his bad habits."

Amir is a perfectly serene and quiet baby, mind you. He just lies on his back all day and only very occasionally comments: "Glo-glo."

I still had a flicker of hope that the nurse would be out, but she was in.

She could come and see you tomorrow," Fat Mama said. "Would 11 o'clock be all right?" "No," I said. "We'll be busy then." "One o'clock?" "That's when I have my fencing lesson." "And your wife?" "She too."

"One-thirty then." "We'll be sleeping." "Four?" "Still sleeping." "Six?" "We're having guests." "Eight?" "Going to the museum." "Listen!" Mama hissed at me. "Just seeing her won't cost you anything, if that's what's worrying you!"

The other customers seemed ready to strangle me with their bare hands. They shouldn't allow monsters like that to have babies, said their looks. Ma herself slammed the receiver and turned her back on me. The pharmacist asked coldly: "The cheapest then, is it?"

I just nodded my head, quite

beyond speech. Only let me get out of here alive, I vowed, and I'll open a cat orphanage.

The pharmacist gave me a glance full of loathing and made a final attempt: "Look at this flimsy rubber nipple," she said, "Before you know it the hole will have gotten so large that Baby may, God forbid, choke..."

By then I knew nothing any more except for the pounding in my head.

"No matter," I snarled, "We'll make another baby."

That was the last straw. A middle-aged gentleman approached me, shaking a fist in my face: "Listen," he shouted, "I don't know who the devil you are, but let me just ask you this: do you know what they make these cheap bottles for? They make

them for feeding the cat!" I felt my knees go weak. There's a limit to what a man can stand.

"All right," I said hoarsely.

"Give me the best..." announced the pharmacist; everybody breathed with relief. It was the British superstar, complete with feeding chart and warranty.

The wife threw a fit when she saw it. "What's the matter with you?" she said. "Why did you have to pick the most expensive bottle in the shop?"

"Woman," I replied, "I'll save on anything you like, but not on kittens!"

Come to think of it, who said a cat will eat out of a baby-bottle? What is it — a baby?

Translated by Miriam Arad

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Car crashes, ski accident, murder add to '94 death toll

THE following is a chronological list of 1994's most notable sports deaths:

January 5 - Brian Johnston, who spent 24 years on the BBC TV Test team as a cricket commentator, died of a heart attack at 81. Also a radio commentator, Johnston was noted for several on-air gaffes.

January 8 - Harvey Haddix, who pitched 12 perfect innings in one of baseball's greatest pitching performances only to lose in the 13th, died at age 68. The three-time All-Star was 136-113 with a 3.63 ERA from 1952 to 1965 with the St. Louis Cardinals, Philadelphia Phillies, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Baltimore.

January 17 - Helen Stephens, winner of two gold medals in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin and one of the great female athletes of her day, died at age 75. She won gold medals for the 100-meter dash and with the US women's relay team. She set a record of 11.5 seconds in the 100m that stood until Wilma Rudolph broke it in 1960.

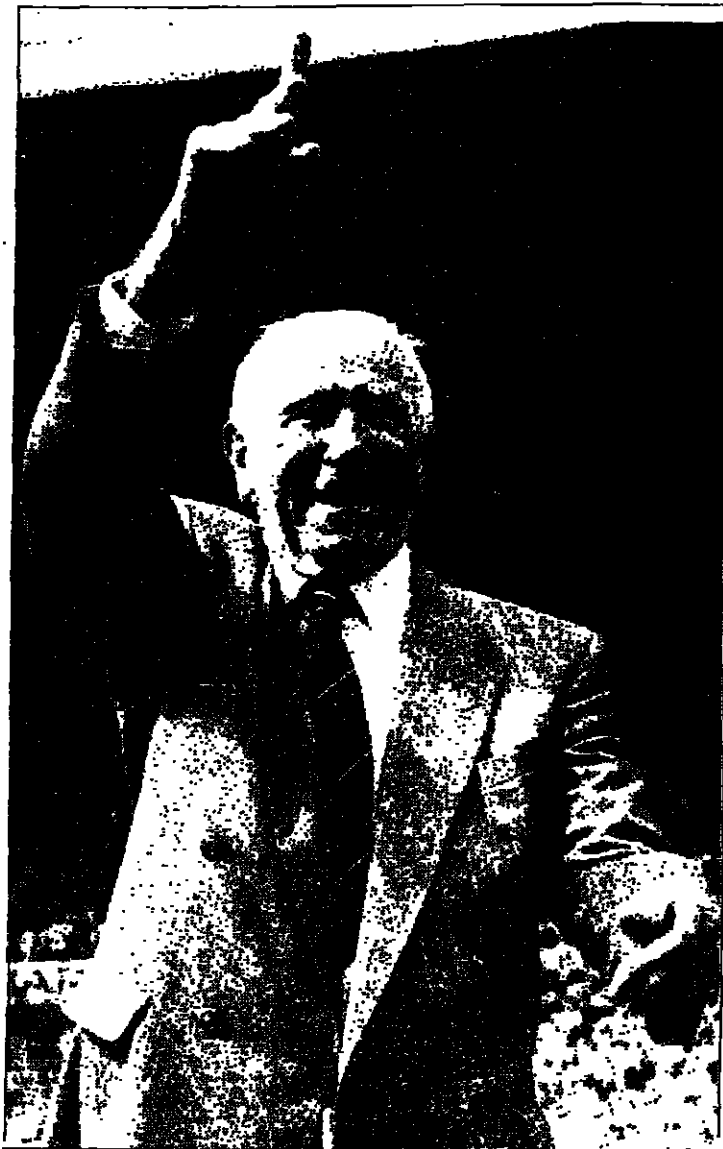
January 20 - Matt Busby, who survived an air crash and coached Manchester United to one of British soccer's greatest triumphs, died at age 84. Busby served as coach of Manchester United from 1945-1969. On Feb. 6, 1958, Busby was injured and eight of his players were killed in a crash in Munich. He rebuilt the team - nicknamed the "Busby Babes" - and in 1968 it became the first English club to win the European Champions Cup by beating Benfica of Lisbon, 4-1.

January 29 - Austria's Ulrike Maier, 26, a two-time Alpine skiing world champion in the super-giant slalom, was killed during a World Cup downhill in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

February 12 - Leroy "Spike" Gibson, who toured the world with the Harlem Globetrotters in the 1960s, died at age 57.

February 26 - Jersey Joe Walcott, a Hall of Famer who became the oldest man to win the heavy-weight boxing championship, died at age 80. Walcott was a little more than 37 years, 6 months old when he knocked out Ezzard Charles to become champion in 1951. Walcott beat Charles again before losing the title in 1952 when he was knocked out by Rocky Marciano.

April 28 - British boxer Bradley Stone, 23, died two days after suffering brain damage in the ring. Stone lost in the British super-bantamweight title to Richie Wootton on April 26.



DYNASTY MAKER - Manchester United's Sir Matt Busby. (AP)

April 30 - Austrian rookie Roland Ratzenberger, 31, was killed when his Simtek Ford hit a wall during the qualifying of the San Marino Grand Prix.

May 1 - Ayrton Senna, 34, three-time world champion from Brazil died after crashing head-on into a concrete barrier at more than 186 mph in the San Marino Grand Prix. Senna won 41 Grand Prix races and world titles in 1988, 1990 and 1991 for McLaren.

May 18 - Julius Boros, winner of 18 US PGA Tour tournaments, including two US Opens and a US PGA Championship, died at age 74. Boros also represented the US in the Ryder Cup four times.

July 2 - Colombian defender Andres Escobar, 27, was shot

outside a bar in Colombia in retaliation for deflecting a ball into his own goal in a 2-1 loss to the US in the World Cup.

July 3 - Lew Hoad, winner of five Wimbledon titles, died at age 59. Hoad was the first postwar player to win consecutive Wimbledon singles titles. He won in 1956 and 1957 and won doubles titles in 1953, 1955 and 1956.

July 17 - Jean Borotra, "The Bouncing Basque" of France, died at age 95. Borotra won the Wimbledon men's singles in 1924 and 1926, and won the doubles in 1925. He captured the French Open singles crown in 1931 and the doubles title three times, and won the Australian Open singles, doubles and mixed doubles in 1928.



HARD-LUCK HURLER - Pirates southpaw Harvey Haddix pitched 12 perfect innings - and lost in the 13th. (AP)

August 15 - Paul Anderson, once recognized as the strongest man in the world, died at age 61. Anderson set nine world records and 18 American records in weightlifting in the 1950s. He won a gold medal in the 1956 Olympics at Melbourne, Australia, and set three Olympic records.

August 17 - Jack Sharkey, former world heavyweight title, died at age 91. Sharkey fought such opponents as Joe Louis, Jack Dempsey, Mike McTigue, Tommy Loughran, Max Schmeling and Primo Carnera. His career record was 38-13-3 with one no-decision. He won the championship June 21, 1932, in a 15-round decision against Schmeling, and lost it to Carnera the following year.

September 3 - Billy Wright, who

captained the English national soccer team in the 1940s and '50s for 90 full internationals and played 105 times for England - a number only surpassed by Bobby Charlton, Bobby Moore and Peter Shilton, died of cancer at age 70. Wright led Wolves to the 1949 English FA Cup title and three league titles in the 1950s. He also managed Arsenal from 1962-66.

September 18 - Vitas Gerulaitis, 40, once one of the best tennis players in the world, died of carbon monoxide poisoning. Gerulaitis won 27 singles titles and nine doubles championships on the ATP Tour and had career earnings of more than \$2.7 million.

October 9 - Fred Lebow, who founded the New York City Mar-



PRIDE OF BRAZIL - Favorite son Ayrton Senna was killed at the San Marino Grand Prix. (AP)

athon in 1970 and built it into an international event, died at age 62.

November 12 - Wilma Rudolph, who overcame pneumonia, scarlet fever and polio to become the first American woman to win three gold medals in athletics at one Olympics, died at age 54. Rudolph won the women's 100- and 200-meter sprints in 1960 Rome Games and added a third gold with the anchor leg on the winning 400-meter relay.

December 26 - Allie Reynolds, a star right-hander on six World Series champion teams with the New York Yankees from 1947-54, died after a long bout with cancer at the age of 77.

Reynolds had two no-hitters in 1951 and went 20-8 in 1952 when

he led the American League with a 2.06 ERA, 160 strikeouts and six shutouts.

He was 7-2 with four saves and a 2.79 ERA in 15 World Series games.

December 27 - Former Surrey batsman and chairman of selectors Peter May died at age 64.

In addition to his playing field accomplishments in which he scored 4,537 runs in 66 Tests, he was also president of the Marylebone Cricket Club in 1980-81.

His highest score was the 285 not out he made against the West Indies at Edgbaston in 1957. He captained England for a record 45 Tests. In his first-class career, from 1948-63, he totalled 27,592 runs at an average of 51.00, including 85 centuries. (AP)

Steelers, Cowboys, 49ers eye 5th Super Bowl win

NEW YORK (AP) - Since the Super Bowl began, three franchises have dominated the sport. The Pittsburgh Steelers, San Francisco 49ers and Dallas Cowboys, all possessing byes this weekend in the first round of the NFL playoffs, are in a race for an unprecedented fifth Super Bowl title.

With each team in a bid to earn a fifth ring, don't bet against any of them.

For nearly 40 years, the Steelers were an also-ran, without a title and rarely even in the playoffs. In 1969, they hired Chuck Noll as coach and immediately went 1-13.

But Noll built a team through the annual draft of college players, selecting defensive linemen Joe Greene, linebackers Jack Ham and Jack Lambert, quarterback Terry Bradshaw, running back Franco Harris and defensive back Mel Blount. All have been inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

It took Harris' "Immaculate Reception" - the famous catch to beat the Oakland Raiders in the 1972 playoffs - to give the Steelers national recognition. But it took two more years before they would win their first champi-

onship for patriarch owner Art Rooney.

If they play Dallas, the Steelers will be facing a team trying for a third straight Super Bowl crown, something no other team has ever done in the 29-history of the game.

Dallas is an entirely different kind of dynasty. The Cowboys have spread their four championships over 22 years, winning under Tom Landry following the 1971 season and behind Roger Staubach, Tony Dorsett and the Dooomsday Defense after the 1977 campaign.

Then came close calls - losses in the 1981, '82 and '83 NFC championship games - and hard times.

After buying the franchise in 1989, Jerry Jones fired the legendary Landry and hired Jimmy Johnson as coach. In their first year under Johnson they went 1-15.

Two years later, the Cowboys were back in the playoffs. The next season, they were champions, and they repeated in 1993.

Not even the ugly divorce of Jones and Johnson last winter could affect the revitalization of the Cowboys, who were 12-4 this season under Barry Switzer.

Are they good enough to be the first five-time Super Bowl winner? Or have the 49ers, the team of the '80s, whose consistency for a decade and a half is unimaginable, finally climbed back past their nemesis of the past two playoffs?

More than the Steelers and Cowboys, the 49ers seem to be on a mission. For Steve Young, there is the opportunity to finally subdue the ghost of Joe Montana. For George Seifert, there is the chance to win it all with his team, not one he inherited from Bill Walsh.

Just as Noll and Johnson did when they took over as coaches, Walsh engineered a startlingly quick turnaround. He was 2-14 in 1979, his first season. By 1981, the 49ers were champions.

They won again in 1984, 1988 and 1989. They played for the NFC crown in 1983, 1990, 1992 and '93. They have won at least 10 games for a dozen straight years.

This season, the 49ers might be more powerful than ever. Young, Rice and Deion Sanders are All-Pro, clearly the best at their position in the game.

Hapoel Givatayim looks to finish upset in hoops State Cup tonight

JOEL GORDIN

HAPOEL Givatayim is out to prove that what it fails to do in the National League it can accomplish in the State Cup.

The club's opportunity will come tonight, when it meets Hapoel Holon in one of the State Cup second leg quarter-final games.

The last victory Givatayim notched, before Thursday's first-leg encounter, was way back on October 17 in the second leg game of the State Cup best-of-16 round against Hapoel Eilat (107-91, after the winning the first leg 91-88).

Since then Givatayim has lost every game and is 2-13 in the league, ahead only of the wretched Beitar Ramat Gan.

However, all that losing did not matter when Givatayim defeated Hapoel Holon 91-87 in the first leg of the quarter-finals.

It was a well-deserved win. Adrian Branch (26 points), Keith Beneth (26), Amos Frishman (15) and Gary Plummer (12) kept up relentless pressure against their star-studded opponents.

Since Ralph Klein took over as Holon head coach from Meyer Kaminsky, the "old fox" has said at every practice: "I can't understand how this squad can lose."

It was easy to see how on Thursday. The defense was full of holes and the uncoordinated offense was based on only one player at a time - at first Tomer Steinhauer, then Shelton Jones, and in the end Adi Gordon.

Tonight, Holon has the home-court advantage and a good chance to win by the necessary five points to advance to the semifinals - but only if the players make a team effort, tighten the defense and, above all, don't underestimate their opponents.

Givatayim, it will be remembered, reached the finals of the State Cup in the 1992/3 season, even though they were well down the league table, finish-

ing in 11th place.

The Ussishkin hustle between Hapoel Jerusalem and Hapoel Tel Aviv could also be a cliffhanger.

Thanks mainly to a sterling shooting spree by Radenko Dovroski against his former team, Jerusalem romped home to a 96-74 in the capital on Wednesday.

However, Tel Aviv thrives on being unpredictable, and with the Ussishkin crowd in its favor, winning by more than 22 points is not that far-fetched.

Buck Johnson is great form, while Milton Wagner and Lior Arditi are also clutch players.

Zvi Sherf's biggest problem, however, is the playmaker position, where Gilad Katz is going through a bad period.

The other two games, at least, are mere formalities. Maccabi Tel Aviv trounced Maccabi Ramat Gan 116-76 in the first leg on Wednesday.

Ramat Gan has stumbled lately and drifted to the bottom half of the league table. It is a squad based solely on the two Americans, Lamont Strothers and John Eubanks, although here and there Nir Riklis and Gur Shelef show some touches of class.

At any rate, Ramat Gan has about as much chance of beating the champions at Yad Eliyahu by 40 points as Beitar Ramat Gan has of defeating the US Dream Team at Madison Square Garden.

The other "formality" game will be in the capital, where Maccabi Jerusalem must make up a 30-point deficit against Bnei Herzliya after losing in the first leg 108-78.

The week's games in the European competitions: Tuesday: Hapoel Tel Aviv v Benetton Treviso in the European Cup final pool.

Wednesday: Spain's Caceres v Hapoel Eilat in the Korac Cup final pool.

Thursday: Benfica Lisbon v Maccabi Tel Aviv in the European Club Championships final pool.

Michigan upsets Colorado St. in Holiday Bowl

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Todd Collins threw for two touchdowns and Tyrone Wheatley ran for another as the No. 20 Michigan Wolverines took advantage of excellent field position to defeat No. 10 Colorado State 24-14 Friday night in the Holiday Bowl.

Michigan (8-4) had to drive only 17 yards for each of its final two touchdowns, a 16-yard pass from Collins to Mercury Hayes and a 3-yard run by Wheatley.

Western Athletic Conference champion Colorado State, playing in only the third bowl in school history, finished at 10-2.

Gator Bowl
Tennessee 45, Virginia Tech 23
James Stewart ran for three touchdowns and threw a 19-yard scoring

pass to Kendrick Jones as Tennessee rolled to a victory over turnover-plagued Virginia Tech at Gainesville, Florida.

Both teams finished the season with 8-4 records, but the unranked Vols won their last five games - scoring 162 points in their last three wins - while No. 17 Tech lost three of its last four. The 68 points scored by the two teams was a Gator Bowl record.

Sun Bowl
Texas 35, N. Carolina 31
Priest Holmes scored his fourth touchdown of the day on a somersaulting 5-yard run late in the fourth quarter, lifting Texas to a victory over No. 19 North Carolina at El Paso, Texas.

Holmes, the game's Most Valuable Player, turned in his best performance of the year with 161 yards on 27 carries against a team that had given up an average of 115.2 yards

per game. Holmes' 43-yard completion on the first play of the game and didn't slow down. His wound up 31 of 45, setting a Copper Bowl record for completions and coming up just 22 short of the bowl's record for passing yards set two years ago by Drew Bledsoe of Washington State.

The Cougars finished the year 10-3, their ninth 10-victory season in 23 years under coach Lavell Edwards. Oklahoma (6-6) saw its string of consecutive wins end with a 27-20 loss to Texas Tech.

This week on Cable TV

TODAY

CHANNEL 5

1:00 NFL playoffs: Chiefs-Dolphins (rpt) 7:00 Bodies in motion 14:00 NFL (rpt) 16:30 World rugby 17:00 Israeli soccer 18:00 NBA 18:30 Golf and a half 20:00 Bushido 20:30 College basketball 22:00 Argentinean soccer 23:30 Golf and a half 24:00 NFL playoffs: Patriots-Browns

EUROSPORT

8:30 Figure skating 11:30 A Good Year - sports highlights of 1994 13:00 Boxing 14:00 WWF 15:00 Ski jumping 17:00 Figure skating 18:00 Dances 19:00 Ski jumping 20:00 Wrestling 21:00 Eurosport news 22:30 Motor racing 23:00 Boxing

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Cricket from India 7:00 Horse racing 8:00 Golf 10:00 International sports magazine 11:00 Michael Chang tennis challenge 12:30 Truck racing 13:00 Sports magazine 14:00 Swimming highlights of 1994 15:00 World Cup soccer 19:00 16:00 Sealing magazine 17:30 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Cricket from India 19:00 Billiards 20:00 International sports magazine 21:00 Cricket: Australia v England 22:00 World Cup soccer 1994 23:00 Swimming highlights of 1994 00:00 Sports magazine 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

MONDAY JANUARY 2

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 14:00 NFL: Patriots-Browns (rpt) 16:30 College basketball 18:00 Argentinean league soccer 19:30 Israeli basketball roundup 20:00 Bushido 20:30 Basketball 22:00 Live Premier League: Arsenal v Tottenham 00:00 Israeli basketball roundup

EUROSPORT

9:30 Motor racing 10:00 Horse racing

11:00 Ski jumping 12:00 Weightlifting 13:00 Motor racing 13:30 Formula 1 15:30 Karting 16:30 Superbikes 17:30 Motor racing 18:30 IndyCar 20:30 Eurosport news 21:00 Speed world 22:00 Europe 00:30 Boxing 1:30 Golf from Japan 2:30 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Cricket from India 7:00 Sports magazine 8:00 World Cup soccer 1994 9:00 Billiards 10:00 Cricket from India 11:00 Horse racing 12:00 Aerobics 12:30 Talking baseball 13:00 Sports magazine 14:00 Swimming highlights of 1994 15:00 Motor racing highlights of 1994 16:00 Water sports magazine 17:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Cricket from India 19:00 Billiards 20:00 Motor racing highlights of 1994 21:00 Cricket: Australia v England 22:00 Water sports magazine 23:00 Swimming highlights of 1994 00:00 Sports magazine 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

TUESDAY JANUARY 3

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 16:00 Bodies in motion 16:30 International winter soccer tournament: Israel v Cyprus 17:00 Basketball 18:30 Premier League: Arsenal v Tottenham 19:30 All sport - weekly roundup of Israeli sports 20:00 Bushido 20:30 Live European basketball: Hapoel TA v Benetton Treviso of Italy 22:00 NFL 00:30 Eurosport basketball: Hapoel TA v Benetton Treviso of Italy

EUROSPORT

9:30 Motor racing 10:00 Figure skating 11:00 Dances 12:00 Body building 13:00 Motor racing 13:30 Eurogoals 15:00 Latin American soccer 16:30 Speed world 17:00 Super stock car racing 18:00 Body building 19:00 Eurogoals 20:30 Eurosport news 21:00 European sailing magazine 22:30 Truck racing highlights of 1994 23:30 Motor racing 24:00 Boxing 00:00 Snooker 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Cricket from India 7:00 Sports magazine 8:00 Touring car highlights of 1994 9:00 Billiards 10:00 Cricket from India 11:00 Tennis: Grand Slam legends 12:00 Aerobics 12:30 World 13:00 Sports magazine 14:00 Swimming highlights of 1994 15:00 Boxing 17:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Cricket from India 19:00 Billiards 20:00 Boxing 22:00 Cricket: Australia v England 23:00 Tennis: Grand Slam legends 00:00 Sports magazine 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 4

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 16:00 Bodies in motion 16:30 NFL 18:00 All sport - weekly roundup of Israeli sports 19:30 European Cup basketball: Hapoel TA v Benetton Treviso of Italy 20:00 Bushido 20:30 Basketball 22:00 International winter soccer tournament: Israel v Greece 22:30 Soccer 00:00 (to be announced)

EUROSPORT

9:30 Motor racing 10:00 European sailing magazine 11:00 Aerobics championships 12:00 Weightlifting 13:00 Motor racing 13:30 Live ski jumping 16:30 European sailing magazine 17:30 Show jumping 18:30 Freestyle skiing 19:30 Ski jumping 20:30 Motor racing 23:00 Motor racing magazine 00:00 Ski jumping 1:00 Show jumping 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Cricket from India 7:00 Sports magazine 8:00 Talking baseball 8:30 Mondial 9:00 Billiards 10:00 Cricket from India 11:00 Grand Slam tennis legends 12:30 Aerobics 12:30 Macau greyhound derby 13:00 Beijing marathon 15:30 Superchallenge: Michael Chang v John McEnroe 17:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00

Cricket from India 19:00 Billiards 20:00 Superchallenge: Michael Chang v John McEnroe 21:30 Macau greyhound derby 22:00 Cricket: Australia v England 23:00 Grand Slam tennis legends 00:00 Sports magazine 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

THURSDAY JANUARY 5

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 16:00 Bodies in motion 16:30 Winter Youth soccer tournament: Israel v Greece 17:00 Basketball 18:30 Handball 19:30 Daily roundup: basketball 20:00 Bushido 20:30 Basketball roundup 21:00 WWF 22:00 Spanish league soccer 23:30 Daily roundup: basketball 00:00 (to be announced)

EUROSPORT

9:30 Motor racing 10:30 Show jumping 11:00 Artistic gymnastics 12:00 Dances 13:00 Motor racing 13:30 Ski jumping 14:30 Motor racing 15:30 Snooker 17:30 Leisure sports 18:00 Snowboard 18:30 Ultra Maratons from the Rockies 19:30 Weightlifting 20:30 Eurosport news 21:00 WWF 22:00 Truck racing 22:30 Motor racing 23:00 Boxing 00:00 Tractor towing 1:00 Truck racing 1994 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:30 Water sports magazine 7:30 Tennis superchallenge: Michael Chang v John McEnroe 9:00 Billiards 10:00 Cricket from India 11:00 Grand Slam tennis legends 12:30 Aerobics 12:30 World of rugby 13:00 International motor racing magazine 14:00 Show jumping 15:00 Rugby 16:30 Sealing 17:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Cricket from India 19:00 Show jumping 20:00 International motor racing magazine 21:00 Cricket: Australia v England 22:00 Rugby 23:00 Grand Slam tennis legends 00:00 International motor racing magazine: French championships 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

Packers eliminate Lions

GREEN BAY, Wisconsin (AP) — The Green Bay Packers limited league rushing champion Barry Sanders to minus-1 yard and held off a late Detroit drive to beat the Lions 16-12 in the opening of the NFL playoffs yesterday.

Sterling Sharpe's absence impaired the Packers, but not nearly as much as Sanders' missing running game hurt Detroit.

With their Pro Bowl receiver out with a career-threatening neck injury, the Packers' defense rallied to snuff the NFL's leading rusher.

Sanders, who gained 1,883 yards this year, carried 13 times. The worst performance of his six-year NFL career was the major reason Detroit (9-8) was knocked out of the playoffs by Green Bay for the second straight season.

Despite Sanders' effort, the Lions had a chance to win at the end when Herman Moore made a leaping grab of Dave Krieg's desperation fourth-down pass from the Green Bay 17. But Moore landed just beyond the end zone as safety George Teague pushed him before his feet could come

down inbounds.

Green Bay punter Craig Henrich ran out of the back of the end zone as time expired, giving Detroit, which hasn't won a road playoff game since 1957, a meaningless safety.

NFL WILD CARD PLAYOFFS
(all times local)
YESTERDAY'S RESULT
Green Bay 16, Detroit 12
LAST NIGHT'S LATE GAME
Kansas City at Miami (Sports Channel repeat broadcast 2 pm today)
TODAY
New England at Cleveland 7:30 pm (Sports Channel broadcast 12 am today, repeat 2 pm tomorrow)
Chicago at Minnesota 11:00 pm

Wilkins ties Auerbach

CLEVELAND (AP) — Lenny Wilkins failed to become the all-time leader in NBA wins as a coach on Friday night as his Atlanta Hawks lost to the Cleveland Cavaliers 87-85, one night after Wilkins matched the record in a Hawks 127-121 OT win over the visiting San Antonio Spurs.

Mark Price scored 30 for the Cavs, who won their 11 straight game to equal the franchise-record winning streak set last February and March.

In his 22nd season, Wilkins owns a career record of 938-791. Auerbach had a 938-479 record in 20 seasons, 16 of them in Boston.

Magie 116, Clippers 105 (OT)

Host Orlando narrowly averted the biggest upset of the season, scoring the first nine points in overtime, to defeat Los Angeles.

Shaquille O'Neal scored 38 points and Anfernee Hardaway added 36 with 10 assists and five rebounds as the Magic ran their home record to 13-0.



LIGHT ONE UP — Atlanta head coach Lenny Wilkins hugs Ken Norman after the Hawks beat visiting San Antonio on Thursday night to tie him for most all-time coaching wins. (AP)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Utah	18	9	.667	—
San Antonio	18	9	.667	—
Dallas	13	12	.520	2.5
Phoenix	14	13	.519	2.5
Minnesota	8	20	.286	12

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Phoenix	17	7	.708	—
Seattle	15	9	.625	2
L.A. Lakers	17	9	.654	3
Sacramento	12	12	.500	5.5
Portland	10	13	.435	10.5
Golden State	10	17	.370	15.5
L.A. Clippers	4	25	.138	17.5

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

San Antonio 115, Washington 101
Orlando 116, L.A. Clippers 105 (OT)
Cleveland 87, Atlanta 85
Boston 124, Detroit 107
New York 96, Minnesota 81
Chicago 133, Miami 88
Charlotte 101, Milwaukee 94
Dallas 116, Golden State 94
L.A. Lakers 127, Phoenix 112
Denver 110, Portland 124
Houston 111, Utah 103
Sacramento 85, Philadelphia 82

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Miami 126, L.A. Clippers 83
Atlanta 127, San Antonio 121 (OT)
Charlotte 125, Orlando 123
Houston 126, Golden State 124
Portland 114, Denver 93
L.A. Lakers 96, Seattle 95

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Orlando	23	6	.793	—
New York	15	12	.556	7.5
Boston	17	10	.630	11.5
New Jersey	12	18	.400	12
Philadelphia	10	18	.357	12.5
Miami	8	18	.303	13
Washington	7	19	.269	14.5

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	20	8	.714	—
Indiana	17	9	.654	3
Charlotte	16	12	.571	4
Chicago	15	13	.538	5
Memphis	12	17	.415	8.5
Detroit	9	17	.346	10
Milwaukee	9	18	.333	10.5

Mac. Tel Aviv regains lead as league reaches halfway mark

DEREK FATTAL

MACCABI Tel Aviv assumed pole position, as the leadership in the National League changed hands once again after an exciting Round 15 that marked the season's halfway stage yesterday.

The Tel Avivians will hold the top spot for the next few weeks, as the league takes a break until the end of the month.

Maccabi gained three crucial points in a narrow victory against Hapoel Beersheba.

Later in the day Hapoel Petah Tikva fell to struggling Hapoel Haifa, while earlier on Maccabi Haifa came away with a draw at a rapidly improving Hapoel Beit She'an.

As a result the Petah Tikvians fell to third place, with Maccabi Haifa moving up to second, two points behind the new leader.

The next four sides in the table were all defeated and look set to lose touch with the leaders unless they regain their winning ways.

With the two Big Macs installed at the head of the pack, it looks like the second half of the season could develop into another two-horse race.

That would be a pity, as interest in the campaign has been substantially boosted by the extra competition generated by the some of the more unfashionable teams who have tasted the rarified air at the summit. Hopefully those sides will find their mettle when the season restarts.

Second Division sides had the week off from league action, playing instead a round of Toto Cup games over the weekend.

Hapoel Haifa 2, Hapoel Petah Tikva 0

League playing can be deceiving. Petah Tikva looked anything but leaders as they struggled to put together any serious attempts on goal.

The Haifaans, on the other hand, looked like a team reborn after last week's 4-0 hammering in the city's derby match. Tal Ben-Haim, restored to the captaincy, was in an ebullient mood in midfield, and Ofer Talker provided free support.

Veteran Eitan Aharoni made the first goal and scored the second. Aharoni's 15th-minute surging run down the right wing was capped by a sweet cross swung high and true to

Tal Ben-Haim, who rose at the far post and headed over the stranded Shai Hess.

Eleven minutes into the second half, Aharoni entered the corner of the Petah Tikva area from the right and let loose an explosive shot that beat Hess, who was correctly positioned through sheer speed and power.

The victory ended a week of controversy for Hapoel that started when Ben-Haim and coach Dror Kashtan bitterly traded accusations in the press, before finally shaking hands and agreeing to make a new start in midweek.

Maccabi's young find of the season, Ben Luz, just three minutes to grab the winning goal that secured the points and the leadership.

There were plenty of further scoring opportunities for both teams as the match unfolded, but both defenses managed to prevent further goals being conceded.

Victor Maroz played with distinction for the southerners, but the result was just as reflected in the Tel Avivians' overall superiority.

Hapoel Beit She'an 2, Maccabi Haifa 2

The two sides put on a classic fighting display. The Beit She'an players refused to be intimidated by their illustrious visitors, and traded punch for punch for most of the first period.

Maccabi's opening goal came from a 40th-minute free kick curved around the defensive wall by Haim Revivo. Beit She'an almost had an immediate reply, but Argentinian import Claudio Cahimi was denied by the woodwork.

Five minutes later the hosts were two goals down after Moshe Glan was unfairly challenged in the area, and Sergei Kandarov placed the ball beyond Beit She'an keeper Meir Cohen.

After the resumption, Beit She'an fought hard to reenter the game. Their signing Romanian Daniel Skenei, a major element in Hapoel Beersheba's success last season, began to trouble the Maccabi defense.

On the hour fortune turned Beit She'an's way, with Nimrod Elbaz beating Rafi Cohen.

Within two minutes the score was tied from the penalty spot. Skenei was tumbled over in the final whistle from the penalty spot, but Danay Koren had no hesitation in awarding the second penalty of the match. Cahimi hit home to send the fans into rapture.

Beit She'an brought on substitute Itai Mordechai as an extra attacker in an effort to clinch all the points, while Alon Hazzan entered the fray to add

more authority to the Haifaies, less than 48 hours after playing in Italy for a World XI in a showcase match against AC Milan.

Despite a heartstopping final 15 minutes, with chances created by both teams, the honors were finally shared.

Beit Yehuda 2, Betar Tel Aviv 3

Plenty of boos and jeers were directed at the former league leaders, who fell away from the front-runners as a result of this unexpected derby loss.

Defeat was made harder to swallow for the Hativka Quarter faithful as a gift own goal in the second minute by Beit's Alexi Shigalov suggested a comfortable victory was in store.

Six minutes later Ronen Schweig leveled the score. His penalty struck the upright, but he was well placed to make certain from the rebound. In the 17th minute Schweig blasted in his second following a well-placed pass by Moshe Eisenberg.

Eisenberg, the best performer of the day, got onto the scoring list with a 55th-minute goal that resulted from a rare error by Yoni Maroz.

A 79th penalty conversion by Be'er Yehuda's Sergei Gerasimetz, who now heads the statistics with 12 strikes to his credit, provided the home fans with a realistic hope of a draw. But the equalizer was not forthcoming.

Betar Jerusalem 0, Holon 1

Betar devotees saw their side fall to a spirited display by Holon. The sole goal of the game came through a mix-up involving Beit's reserve team keeper Guy Grif, deputizing for the injured Golan Aumtman.

He failed to collect a cross into the area, and Marko Ben-Baruch collected the loose ball, then passed to Assaf Toubi, who supplied the touch into goal.

Grif made partial amends 12 minutes later, saving Shai Holzman's first penalty attempt in Holon colors.

Ironi Rishon 1, Hapoel Tel Aviv 0

Former Belgium international star Mark Van der Linden marked his opening game with Rishon with an 83rd-minute goal, to add some brightness to an otherwise rough contest.

Van der Linden could have added a second two minutes before the final whistle from the penalty spot, but Jaroslav Baku dived to parry the ball away for a corner.

Mac. Herzliya 2, Mac. Netanya 0

Offer Mizrahi took the man of the match honors and both goals in a fine personal performance, which continued Herzliya's fight to escape the bottom spot.

Mizrahi's first strike resulted from the Netanya defense's failure to clear a 25th-minute corner. The second involved a quick turn and shot in the 69th minute that left Yaakov Beldev helpless in the Netanya goal.

Mac. Petah Tikva 1, Ironi Ashdod 1

The Ashdodians had the upper hand and played the better soccer for most of the match.

They got off to a dream start with Ran Hatz, shooting past Golan Malul from outside the area after just three minutes. In the 10th minute captain Yigal Zhiran blasted over the upright with just Malul to beat.

That error proved costly as nine minutes after the interval Maccabi's Eyal Beigliter blasted an unstoppable shot into Bonnie Ginsburg's goal for the equalizer.

Ginsburg had better luck denying an attempt by substitute Tal Ben-Haim a few minutes later from spitting distance.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
After 15 rounds

Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mac. Tel Aviv	9	2	4	29	16	29
Mac. Haifa	7	6	2	31	20	27
Hapoel Petah Tikva	7	5	3	25	17	27
Hapoel Haifa	7	5	3	25	19	26
Beit Yehuda	6	5	4	28	22	23
Beit Jerusalem	6	4	5	24	16	23
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	6	3	6	21	16	21
Hapoel Beersheba	5	6	4	16	21	21
Rishon LeZion	4	7	7	19	24	18
Mac. Netanya	3	8	4	20	19	17
Beit Tel Aviv	5	2	8	19	29	17
Zahir Holon	4	4	7	13	24	16
Mac. Herzliya	4	4	7	20	26	16
Hapoel Ashdod	4	3	8	22	15	15
Ironi Ashdod	3	5	7	17	23	14
Mac. Herzliya	3	5	7	17	30	14

NATIONAL LEAGUE
After 15 rounds

Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mac. Tel Aviv	9	2	4	29	16	29
Mac. Haifa	7	6	2	31	20	27
Hapoel Petah Tikva	7	5	3	25	17	27
Hapoel Haifa	7	5	3	25	19	26
Beit Yehuda	6	5	4	28	22	23
Beit Jerusalem	6	4	5	24	16	23
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	6	3	6	21	16	21
Hapoel Beersheba	5	6	4	16	21	21
Rishon LeZion	4	7	7	19	24	18
Mac. Netanya	3	8	4	20	19	17
Beit Tel Aviv	5	2	8	19	29	17
Zahir Holon	4	4	7	13	24	16
Mac. Herzliya	4	4	7	20	26	16
Hapoel Ashdod	4	3	8	22	15	15
Ironi Ashdod	3	5	7	17	23	14
Mac. Herzliya	3	5	7	17	30	14

SECOND DIVISION TOTO CUP
Round 5

Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Herzliya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Netanya	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mac. Be'er Yehuda	2	1	1	1	1	1

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7:05 The State on the Way 9:05 Song
10:05 Sun 12:05 Air Conditioning
13:05 Showers 15:05 Program with
Yoav Kutner 18:05 Driving Wisely
18:05 Program with Lea Oz 20:05 Be
low the Belt 22:05 Good Night

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Altitude (6)	1 Funeral vehicle (6)
4 Possessed (5)	2 Danger to shipping (7)
8 Fend off, avoid (5)	3 In proprietor (8)
9 Hairy arch on face (7)	4 Portant (4)
10 Spirit varnish (7)	5 Tend (5)
11 Cure (4)	6 Dally (5)
12 Female sheep (3)	7 Therefore (5)
14 Giant (4)	13 Balance (8)
15 Wharf (4)	16 Desert (7)
18 Regret (3)	17 Annual (6)
21 Saucy, roughish (4)	19 Agog (5)
23 Unyielding (7)	20 Narrow sea-channel (6)
25 Part of university (7)	22 Punctuation mark (5)
26 Republic in S Asia (5)	24 Thirats (4)
27 Passenger ship (5)	
28 Young swan (6)	

From today: Histadrut has no income

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

WITH the advent of national health insurance today, the Histadrut now finds itself with no source of income for the first time in its 74-year history, and is in danger of shutting down unless the funding problem is resolved.

"As of [today] we don't have an agora. We have no sources of income whatsoever," Histadrut Trade Union Chairman MK Amir Peretz said last night, following the breakdown of the talks between the Histadrut and private employers about "handling and membership" fee, which is meant to fund the labor federation.

Peretz said the situation is extremely grave and may lead to the declaration of a general labor dispute, as a prelude to a national strike. The Histadrut's executive will debate its predicament today and decide on what to do next.

Until now, the Histadrut deducted its operating costs directly from the fees its members paid to the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit health fund. As of today, however, the National Insurance Institute will deduct health fees directly from workers' paychecks and the state will allocate funding to the various health funds.

The "handling and membership" fee of 0.8% is to be deducted by the employers and transferred to the Histadrut to ensure its existence and continued operation, in lieu of the funds it will no longer be getting from Clalit.

But the employers announced last night they would not sign a separate agreement regarding the fee. They insist on reaching a new overall wage agreement, as well as a cost-of-living raise agreement, instead of the old ones that expired yesterday, before discussing the new fee.

Attempts to reach an agreement on the fee only began recently, after it became clear to Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon that the legislation of an "organization tax" to ensure the Histadrut's activities would not survive a challenge to the High Court of Justice, as it appears to violate basic laws.

The Knesset's Labor and Social Affairs Committee has also been trying to legislate an organization tax, to ensure the workers' right to have representative unions and organizations. However, Justice Ministry representative Dan Orenstein told the committee that the government opposes such a law, as it contradicts basic laws.

The employers object to the Histadrut's demands for full compensation if inflation exceeds 10%. They insist that full compensation be given only if inflation surpasses 14%. Other bones of contention include the Histadrut's demand for a new formula to calculate the cost of living adjustment and minimum wage, and to shorten the workweek from 45 to 42 hours.



The mother of Capt. Nir Poraz, killed in the effort to rescue soldier Nahshon Wachsmann, accepts an award on Friday on behalf of her son from outgoing Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen Ehud Barak. Capt. L. (center) was also honored for his role in the mission. (IDF Spokesman)

Haredi protesters prevented from blocking capital junction

BILL HUTMAN

THE police and the Jerusalem Municipality this weekend prevented haredi demonstrators from blocking the Bar-Ilan junction for the first time in months.

Public pressure to keep the junction open on Shabbat was what pushed the police and city to take action to prevent the illegal closure, according to Jerusalem Meretz and Labor Party leaders who have fought against the closure.

Haredim have been blocking the southern entrance to the junction on Rehov Shmuel Hanavi on Shabbat for several months with trash and debris

from a nearby construction site.

Senior police officers have said it was their job only to keep the haredim off the road, and the municipality's responsibility to clean away the debris so the road could be traveled.

Municipality spokesman Hagai Elias said that over the weekend, as on past weekends, city cleaning crews cleared away debris after the police pushed the protesters away from the road.

Police Inspector-General Asaf Hefetz visited the intersection late yesterday afternoon to see

how police were handling the haredi protesters and a counter demonstration by several dozen secular protesters, led by the Meretz and Labor parties.

The left-wing protesters were kept several dozen meters away from the intersection by police, while mounted police and border policemen kept haredi protesters from blocking the intersection.

At the same time, police patrols cruised Rehov Shmuel Hanavi between the junction to Rehov Shimon Hatzadik, the section of the road which is sup-

posed to remain open on Shabbat.

A haredi youth was detained for throwing stones at one of the patrols.

"It is not our job to take sides" in the fight over the road's Shabbat closure, Hefetz said. "We are only here to make sure the protests are carried out within the framework of the law."

Meretz city councillor Ornan Yekutieli said, "The public's outrage over the closure of Shmuel Hanavi paid off. If it wasn't for the pressure from the public and the media, the road would have remained closed."

Habad community wrangles over rebbe's true intentions

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

THE leadership of the Habad movement is downplaying an ad that claims to convey the late Lubavitcher rebbe's endorsement of Habad-Lubavitch, saying the message relies on documents that do not express his sentiments.

The ad, which appeared last week in a New York Jewish newspaper, reprints two halachic opinions and calls on "the world-wide Habad-Lubavitch communities" to "unite in prayer... for the success of those appointed by the Rebbe in his will to administer the three pillar organizations of

the world-encompassing Habad-Lubavitch Movement."

Those organizations are Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch, Mahane Israel and Agudas Hassidei Habad.

"To be kind, I would say that [the ad] is mischievous, but it has no bearing whatsoever on the reality," said Zalman Shmotkin, an aide to members of Agudas Hassidei Habad. He declined to elaborate.

After the death of his wife in February 1988, Rebbe Menachem

Mendel Schneerson commissioned aides to draft a will. A number of documents relating to the will, none of them signed by the rebbe, are circulating. It is not clear which — if any — carry any force.

Twice last summer, four rabbis issued halachic opinions that validated an unsigned document, dated 17 Elul 5748 (summer 1988), as the rebbe's last will and testament.

The 1988 document names five rabbis who were to administer the three organizations. The men, whose names appeared in the newspaper ad, are Shneur Zalman Gurary, Yehuda Krinsky, Nissan Mindel, David Raskin, and Sholom Mendel Simpson.

All but Gurary currently are officers in at least one of the Habad organizations.

In late October, the executive

committee of the Central Committee of Habad Lubavitch Rabbis convened what it called a "special rabbinical board of inquiry" to review the documents. Early in November, the committee released its report.

The board dispensed with the opinion of the four rabbis by saying that, "for reasons beyond their control," they lacked information and "were unable to arrive at a factual conclusion."

After 10 hours of testimony in three sessions, the board concluded that the document of 1988 had no validity, because it had not been signed. Further, the board said, the rebbe revealed his wishes about the Habad institutions later, in 1990, through legal charters that named officials and that were validated by his signature.

The board itself did not directly select or reject any specific official, but instead referred to the charters.

Minor held in murder of Haifa psychologist

A WESTERN Galilee youth, 17, was arrested last week as a suspect in the murder of Eliezer Levi, 53, a homosexual Haifa psychologist who was found dead in his home 10 days ago.

The suspect, who, as a minor, cannot be named, was remanded for 10 days on Friday by Haifa District Court.

The suspect has reenacted the crime for police, but insisted he stabbed Levi in self-defense, saying Levi had locked him in a room and sexually abused him. He said he had not meant to kill Levi, only to hurt him so he could escape from the apartment.

Levi was killed December 19 and his body was found three days later.

The teenager was tracked down after he sold an electrical appliance he had taken from Levi's home. The suspect has a previous record of property crimes.

Police arrested the suspect, a pupil in a dormitory facility, at his parents' home.

Levi's car, which had been stolen at the time of the murder, was found burned last night in the Ahituv Forest. Another 17-year-old, a friend of the murder suspect, was arrested on suspicion of obstructing justice by burning the vehicle.

The murder suspect had apparently stolen several electronic appliances from Levi's apartment and escaped with them in Levi's car.

The murder suspect's arrest confirmed that there was, in fact, no connection between Levi's murder and the October murder of Technion Prof. Yeshayahu Demner, another Haifa homosexual. Police last week arrested Michel Vaknin of Ashdod as a suspect in the latter murder.

Police said they had questioned several people who indicated the suspect and the victim had developed a relationship before the murder. The suspect had confirmed this, they said.

Police did not describe the nature of the relationship between the two in open court, citing privacy laws, but submitted a written description to Judge Ehud Rakam.

Chief Supt. Jean Ajwad, who headed the investigation, said the suspect was videotaped when he made his statement to police, in accordance with the recommendations of the Goldberg Commission, which go into effect today. (tim)

Gangsters slay wrong man in Lod

A REHOVOT man was shot and killed yesterday afternoon in Lod by masked men in what police said was apparently a case of mistaken identity.

Michel Alzimi, 34, had traveled to Lod to visit his brother, and, while he was waiting on the street for the brother to come outside, two masked men pulled up in a white car. One of the assailants got out of the car and fired a number of shots at Alzimi's chest with an automatic weapon.

Moshe Alzimi, who has a police record, heard the racket and alerted police and an ambulance. Michel was brought to Assaf Harofeh Hospital, where he died three hours later.

Police said the attack was criminally motivated and the victim, who has no criminal record, was apparently mistaken for someone else, perhaps his brother. (tim)

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	Mon.-Fri.	08:00-13:00	3.38	20%
	Sat. & Sun.	08:00-24:00	3.38	20%
England	Mon.-Fri.	08:00-22:00	3.77	-
	Mon.-Fri.	22:00-01:00	2.83	25%
	Sat. & Sun.	01:00-08:00	2.83	25%
Germany	Sat. & Sun.	01:00-08:00	2.83	25%
	Daily	01:00-08:00	1.88	50%
Holland				
Russia				
Ukraine				
fixed rate for every day			4.24	

* For Italy, 25% reduced rate, every day except Sunday.

So now you just have to lift the receiver and dial, to your son in England, to your brother who's living in New York, to your girl friend who's off skiing in the Alps, and to all your other loved ones. If they were here with you now, you would probably go to a film together, and to a restaurant afterwards. Think about it... the tip itself would cost more.

To receive a free itemized list of your international calls, dial 199 or fax 198



בית איתן לאורך כל הקו

Suspected seller of personal data remains in custody

THE Tel Aviv District Court on Friday rejected an appeal for the release of Reuven Milman, 31, who is suspected of illegally selling a compact disk containing information about local residents. He was remanded last week for seven days.

The database on the disk, to be used in a computer's CD-ROM drive, contains personal information culled from telephone books, the voters' registry, and the Companies Registrar.

Milman claimed he had done nothing illegal, saying that even Bezdek had asked to buy the disk, which can be used to search for a subscriber's name by knowing the telephone number.

Milman's attorney argued that all his client had done was take publicly available information and make it accessible in convenient ways; making it possible, for example, to enter a name and find out how many firms some-

one manages and how many shares he owns in them.

But Judge Nathan Amit said he was not convinced by this argument, though he conceded the matter raises a number of legal questions that will have to be decided in court.

However, he could not at this juncture rule on them, and the possible violation of individuals' privacy is serious enough to justify keeping him in custody, Amit said. (tim)

Chairman of animal rights group held for sexual abuse

"LET the Animals Live" animal welfare organization chairman Benny Schlesinger was arrested Friday on suspicion of sexually abusing a 17-year-old boy.

Police told the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court that Schlesinger allegedly gave a ride to the youth late Thursday night, supplied him with Ecstasy tablets, brought him home and took advantage of his being under the influence of the pills to sexually abuse him. Schlesinger allegedly also videotaped the encounter.

Investigators seized videotapes at Schlesinger's home and told the court they would have to view them and arrange a line-up. Schlesinger denied the charges and said the complainant tried to blackmail him, and that the youth was under the influence of drugs when he met him.

Schlesinger's lawyer told police his client is not a criminal and his detention would cause him irreversible damage and unjustified suffering. He added that Schlesinger has 40 dogs and cats at

home he looks after.

Judge Zecharia Caspi ordered Schlesinger placed under house arrest, and set bail at NIS 55,000. (tim)

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